



Trump cracks down on Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela

By GISELA SALOMON, DEB RIECHMANN and MATTHEW LEE

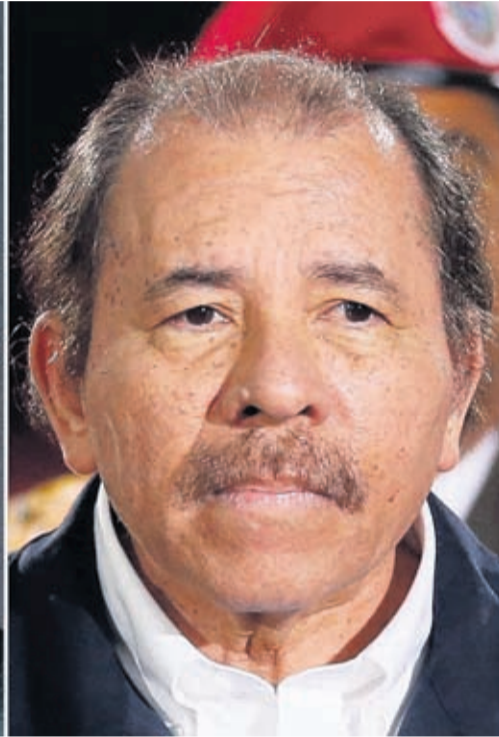
Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) —

The Trump administration on Wednesday intensified its crackdown on Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela, rolling back Obama administration policy and announcing new restrictions and sanctions against the three countries whose leaders national security adviser John Bolton dubbed the "three stooges of socialism."

"The troika of tyranny — Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua — is beginning to crumble," Bolton said in a hard-hitting speech near Miami on the 58th anniversary of the United States' failed Bay of Pigs invasion of the island, an attempt to overthrow the Cuban government.

The measures seem likely to hit hardest in Cuba, which



This combination of images shows, from left, Cuba's President Miguel Diaz-Canel, Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega and Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro.

is at a moment of severe economic weakness as it struggles to find cash to import basic food and other supplies following a drop in aid from Venezuela and a

string of bad years in other key economic sectors.

Bolton announced a new cap on the amount of money that families in the United States can send

their relatives in Cuba. The Obama administration had lifted limits on remittances, but the new limit will be \$1,000 per person per quarter. Remittances

to Cuba from the United States amounted to \$3 billion in 2016, according to the State Department.

Associated Press

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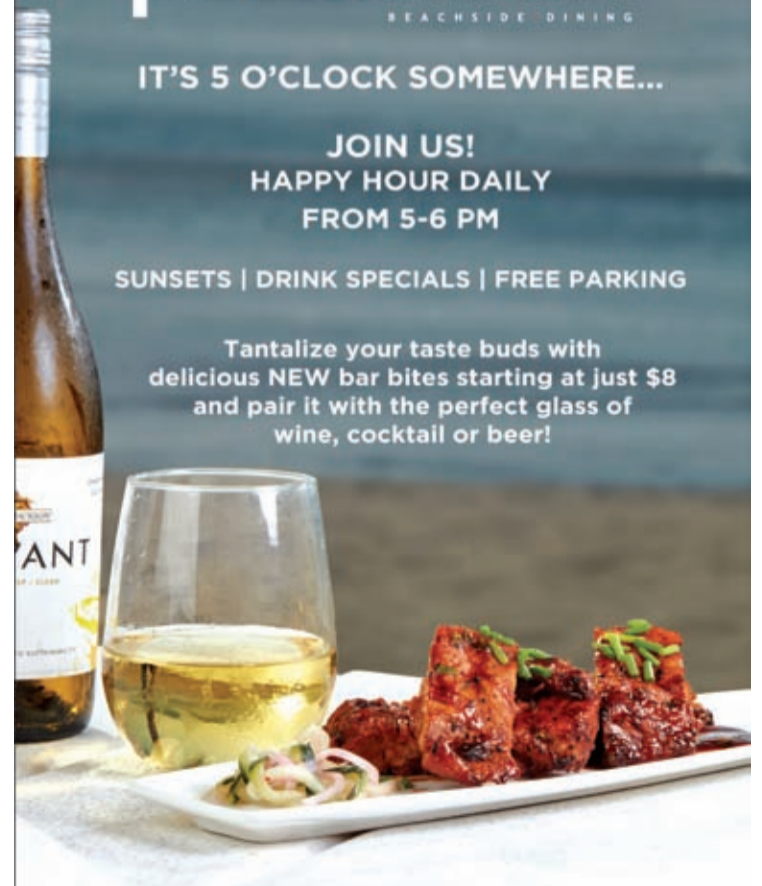
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Trump cracks down on Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela



National security adviser John Bolton gestures while discussing new administration policy during a speech, Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in Coral Gables, Fla., at the Bay of Pigs Veterans Association on the 58th anniversary of the United States' failed 1961 invasion of the island, an attempt to overthrow the Cuban government.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

Washington also moved to restrict "non-family travel" after a broad loosening of so-called purposeful visits under Obama led to soaring numbers of American trips for cultural and educational exchanges. Details on the restrictions were not immediately clear, but tourism is a key lifeline of hard currency for Cuba. Bolton called such visits "veiled tourism."

Bolton spoke hours after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced a new policy allowing lawsuits against foreign firms operating on properties Cuba seized from Americans after the 1959 revolution. The United States has enforced a trade embargo against Cuba since the early 1960s. Cuban officials met the announcements

with defiance. "Nobody will snatch away from us, neither through seduction nor force, 'the Fatherland that our parents won for us by standing up,'" President Miguel Díaz-Canel said via Twitter. "We Cubans will not surrender."

Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez called it an attack on international law, Cuban sovereignty and countries that would do business with the island: "Aggressive escalation by (hashtag)US against Cuba will fail. Like at Giron, we will be victorious," he tweeted, referring to a Bay of Pigs beach where invaders landed.

"We will always be willing to have a dialogue based on absolute respect, but if the U.S. government has chosen a confrontational path we will not hesitate to defend the gains of the revolution at any cost," Ro-

dríguez later said on state television.

On Venezuela, Bolton said Washington was sanctioning the country's Central Bank, which the Trump administration says has been instrumental in propping up the embattled government of President Nicolás Maduro. The sanctions do not bar humanitarian aid or private remittances and aim to ensure reliability of debit and credit card transactions, which have become essential amid skyrocketing inflation and a shortage of cash notes.

Maduro called the move the latest example of "imperialist aggression." In a nationally broadcast TV appearance, he said any nation's central bank is "sacred" and deserves respect. "I see imperialism as crazy, desperate," Maduro said. Bolton also announced sanctions against financial services provider Bancorp, which he claimed is a "slush fund" for Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega. "The United States looks forward to watching each corner of this sordid triangle of terror

fall: in Havana, in Caracas, and in Managua," Bolton said in South Florida, which is home to many thousands of exiles and immigrants from the three countries. He said Obama administration policies had given the Cuban government "political cover to expand its malign influence" across the region, including in Venezuela. Cuba has trained Venezuelan security forces to repress civilians and support Maduro, Bolton said, calling Maduro "quite simply a Cuban puppet."

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Trump cracks down on Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela

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Bolton's pledge to "never, ever abandon" the people of Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua in their fight for freedom also might ring hollow in light of the historical events he sought to highlight at the event hosted by the Bay of Pigs Veterans Association.

Many Cuban Americans to this day resent the late President John F. Kennedy for not deploying American troops at a critical moment in the Bay of Pigs invasion. Meanwhile, with the high stakes of the Cold War a fading memory, some critics of U.S. policy toward Venezuela worry the Trump administration's stance that all options are on the table, including a military



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo speaks during a news conference at the State Department in Washington, Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Associated Press

one, to oust Maduro is an empty threat that will only serve to ignite the streets and geopolitical tensions with Russia, compounding the misery of Venezuelan citizens. "Honoring one of U.S.' greatest military fias-

cos from 60 years back suggests U.S. policy to Latin America owes more now to a perverse Cold War nostalgia than practical benefits for people of the region," said Ivan Briscoe, the Latin American direc-

tor for the International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based think tank.

Collin Laverty, president of Cuba Educational Travel, said in a statement that the measures on remittances and travel threaten the economic survival of Cuban families and the viability of thousands of independent small businesses allowed to operate since 2010 under reforms implemented by former President Raúl Castro.

"The only winners here are a handful of members of Congress and those stuck in the past that support them," Laverty said. "The losers are millions of Cubans on and off the island and the overwhelming majority of Americans that support engagement with Cuba." Many of the 400 or so who paid \$100 to attend Bolton's speech at the Biltmore in South Florida were of Cuban descent. Rafael UsaTorres, a member of the 2506 Brigade that worked for the CIA at the time of the invasion, said he has faith the measures will bring down Díaz-Canel's government, though he wished it had been done sooner.

"Today is a big day," the 78-year-old said. "But I feel very sad — too many years waiting."

Others said Washington isn't going far enough. Manuel Menendez-Pou, 79, said the Cuban government had confiscated some \$63 million in property from his family, once one of the wealthiest on the island, mainly in the sugar industry.

"The problem is not the money," Menendez-Pou, also a former member of the brigade, said minutes before the speech. "They stole our life."

In Havana, homemaker

Odalis Salazar worried about the future of remittances she receives from two children living abroad, including one in the United States.

"It hurts everyone and Trump is absolutely criminal, because he knows that ... (the remittances) help us a lot," Salazar said. "We Cubans have families there and we get by largely with that help that they send us." Pompeo's decision on allowing lawsuits lets Americans, including Cubans who became naturalized citizens, sue companies that operate out of hotels, tobacco factories, distilleries and other properties nationalized after Fidel Castro took power.

Pompeo said he would not renew a bar on litigation that has been in place for two decades, meaning lawsuits can be filed starting May 2, when the current suspension expires.

The Justice Department has certified roughly 6,000 claims as having merit, said Kimberly Breier, the top U.S. diplomat for the Americas. Those claims have an estimated value of \$8 billion: \$2 billion in property and \$6 billion in interest, she said.

An additional 200,000 uncertified claims could run into the tens of billions of dollars, she said.

Breier said there would be no exceptions to the policy, but foreign companies "will have nothing to worry about if they are not operating on properties taken from Americans."

Nonetheless, companies in the European Union and Canadian companies stand to lose tens of billions in compensation and interest, and the decision prompted stern responses and vows to protect businesses from lawsuits. □



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Florida teenager obsessed with Columbine takes her own life

By KATHLEEN FOODY and COLLEEN SLEVIN

Associated Press

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — A Florida teenager who authorities say was obsessed with the Columbine school shooting and may have been planning an attack in Colorado just ahead of the 20th anniversary was found dead Wednesday in an apparent suicide after a nearly 24-hour manhunt.

The body of 18-year-old high schooler Sol Pais was discovered in the mountains outside Denver with what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound after investigators got a tip from the driver who took her there, the FBI said.

During the manhunt, Denver-area schools closed as a precaution, with classes and extracurricular activities canceled for a half-million students.

Police and the FBI were tipped off about Pais after the Miami Beach high school student made troubling remarks to others about her "infatuation" with the 1999 bloodbath at Columbine High and this weekend's anniversary of the 13 killings, said Dean Phillips, FBI agent in charge in Denver. He did not elaborate on what she said.

Pais purchased three one-way tickets to Denver on three consecutive days, then flew in on Monday night and went directly to a gun store, where she bought a shotgun, authorities said.

"We're used to threats, frankly, at Columbine," John McDonald, security chief for Jefferson County school system, said when the manhunt was over. "This one felt different. It was different. It certainly had our attention."

McDonald described her trip as a "pilgrimage" to Columbine.

Colorado Gov. Jared Polis said after receiving word that the hunt was over that he and all Colorado parents are "hugging their children a little tighter."

In Pais' hometown, Surf-



This combination of undated photos released by the Jefferson County, Colo., Sheriff's Office on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 shows Sol Pais.

side Police Chief Julio Yero asked that the family be given "privacy and a little time to grieve." Pais' parents had reported her missing on Monday night, police said.

"This family contributed greatly to this investigation from the very onset. They provided valuable information that led us to Colorado and a lot of things that assisted in preventing maybe more loss of life," Yero said.

Authorities said she did not threaten a specific school. But Columbine and more than 20 other schools outside Denver reacted by locking their doors for nearly three hours Tuesday afternoon, and some canceled evening activities or moved them inside.

Pais' body was found off a trail not far from the base of Mount Evans, a recreation area about 60 miles southwest of Denver, authorities said. She used the weapon she bought, Phillips said. She had been last seen in a black T-shirt, camouflage pants and black boots.

Sheriff Jeff Shrader said the sale of the shotgun apparently followed the state's

legal process. Out-of-state residents who are at least 18 can buy shotguns in Colorado. Customers must provide fingerprints and pass a criminal background check.

A gun shop that said it sold the shotgun to Pais posted on Facebook that she passed the background check and the purchase was legal.

"We had no reason to suspect she was a threat to either herself or anyone else," said the post, which was signed by Colorado Gun Broker owner Josh Rayburn.

School officials said events planned to mark the anniversary will go on as scheduled, including a ceremony at Columbine on Saturday. Two teenagers attacked Columbine on April 20, 1999, killing 12 classmates and a teacher before tak-

ing their own lives. They have inspired cult-like admirers and motivated other mass shooters over the decades. Since Columbine, a growing "no notoriety" movement has urged news organizations to avoid naming the perpetrators of mass shootings to deprive them of the notoriety they seek.

In Florida, Adam Charni, a Miami Beach High School senior, said Pais dressed in black and kept mostly to herself. He said he was "baffled" to learn she was the person authorities in Colorado were searching for. Another classmate, 17-year-old Drew Burnstine, described Pais as quiet and smart.

Phillips said investigators were poring through Pais' social media, including a blog with photos of handwritten journal entries alongside sketches of guns. Denver-area parents struggled with how to explain to their children why they had the day off school without scaring them.

"This is definitely a challenge in their generation, and watching my kids learn how to navigate this is really hard. It is really heartbreaking," said Suzanne Kerns, of suburban Arvada, whose children are 8 and 15.

Kerns said she was angry about how easy it was for someone reported missing to come from out of state and buy a gun. □



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Some polls show parents' growing fears of dangers at school

By LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

The deadly attack at Columbine High School in 1999 seemed to usher in a new era of school shootings.

Two decades later, polls consistently capture growing fears among American parents that their children face imminent danger whenever they go to school. Those fears have only intensified since attacks at an elementary school in 2012 in Newtown, Connecticut, and last year at a high school in Parkland, Florida.

In the aftermath of the Parkland shooting, some research suggests that some type of school gun violence happens almost daily in the United States. Other studies indicate that deaths from school violence have actually declined since 1991. Answers to some key questions about school attacks over the last several decades:

WHAT ARE AMERICANS' PERCEPTIONS OF SCHOOL SHOOTINGS?

A March survey by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that a majority of Americans believe schools and colleges, along with places of worship, have become less safe compared with 20 years ago.

Wide shares of Americans also believe parents, the internet and news coverage of similar attacks are at least partly to blame for school shootings.

About 2 in 10 parents are not at all confident or not very confident in



In this May 1, 1999, file photo, demonstrators gather on the Colorado State Capitol grounds in Denver, Colo., to protest against the National Rifle Association's annual meeting, which is being held in the city.

their child's safety while at school. About a third of parents are very confident or extremely confident, according to the poll. But fewer Americans put blame for shootings on schools themselves.

WHAT DO THE DATA SHOW?

According to data compiled by Northeastern University criminologist James Alan Fox, who has been researching gun violence for decades, school shootings were more frequent in the 1990s than today. From 1991 until the Columbine shooting, an average of 19 fatal school shootings happened each year, with about 22 people killed.

In contrast, over the past eight years, an average of about six fatal school shootings happened each year, with about 14 killed.

"First of all, schools are safe, and if you consider the over 50 million schoolchildren and the over 100,000 schools that we have, the risk of a student or a faculty member being killed by gunfire, it's extremely low," Fox told AP. "The one-homicide-is-too-many mantra is quite true. Yet when you do the calculations, the probability is very small."

Other data, such as that compiled by Everytown for Gun Safety, captures a broader spectrum of gun-

related violence, including non-fatal shootings and drive-by shootings in which the perpetrators do not have a direct connection to the school. That research paints a different picture that suggests gun violence — from random gunfire to suicides — is a frequent occurrence.

Everytown, which began tracking school shootings after Newtown, notes that attacks such as those at Sandy Hook Elementary School and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School are not commonplace and represent less than 1 percent of the school gun-violence incidents.

WHAT DRIVES THE PERCEPTION THAT SCHOOL SHOOTINGS ARE ON THE RISE?

Fox chalks much of it up to the attention such crimes receive in the news. A generation ago, there were many fewer cable TV news channels and websites covering the events 24 hours a day. One school shooting he cites happened in 1989, when a gunman killed five elementary school students and wounded 32. The shooting in Stockton, California, is barely remembered. Columbine was among the mass shootings in recent decades that sparked the "No Notoriety" movement, an appeal by both gun-control and gun-rights activists to avoid repeated reporting of the names and biographic details of gunmen. They hope denying attention to the attackers prevents inspiring a new crop of future shooters.

HOW HAVE SHOOTINGS EVOLVED?

The early 1990s were plagued by a high homicide rate overall around the country, and that's reflected in school shootings. Many of the attacks in that decade were gang-related. Gang warfare spilled out from the streets into the halls of the schools, but those shootings "were not the type of events that got a lot of attention, except for locally," Fox said.

In more recent years, most school shootings are either related to perceived bullying or to reasons that cannot be definitively explained. □

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Parole granted for driver in deadly 1981 Brink's heist



In this Nov. 24, 1981 file photo, Weather Underground member Judith Clark is escorted into Rockland County Courthouse in New City, N.Y.

By **MARY ESCH**
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Former left-wing revolutionary Judith Clark was granted parole Wednesday after serving more than 37 years behind bars for her role as getaway driver in a 1981 Brink's armored truck robbery that left two police officers and a security guard dead. "You were wrong. Your behavior was criminal. Your callous disregard for the wellbeing of some, in favor of others, is a disgrace," the parole board wrote in its letter delivered to Clark. "However, this release decision is granted in keeping with applicable factors" including her age, the length of time served, her apologies to victims, her disavowal of radical principles and her accomplishments in prison. Clark was seen by supporters as a symbol of the need for clemency if the prison system was to live up to its ideals as an institution of rehabilitation rather than retribution.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo praised Clark's behavior as a model prisoner when he commuted her 75-years-to-life sentence in

Associated Press

2016 to make her eligible for parole. The 69-year-old inmate has earned a master's degree, trained service dogs, founded an AIDS education program and counseled mothers behind bars during her time in prison.

"We are grateful that the Parole Board affirmed what everyone who has interacted with Judy already knows — that she is a rehabilitated, remorseful woman who poses no threat to society," said Michael Cardozo, who represents Clark pro bono as co-counsel with Steve Zeidman.

Clark is supposed to be released from Bedford Hills Correctional Facility by May 15, Zeidman said, adding "We hope it's much sooner." She plans to live with a friend in New York City and take a job with Hour Children, an organization that helps incarcerated women and their children rejoin the community.

"My great hope is that the Parole Board continues to honor the work people do to transform their lives while in prison and lets more families' loved ones come home," said Clark's daughter, Harriet Clark, in a pre-

pared statement.

At her April 3 parole hearing, Clark presented support statements from more than 2,000 people. They included former Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau, 11 members of New York's congressional delegation and Elaine Lord, a former superintendent of Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. A letter signed by more than 70 elected officials said the

correctional system exists for rehabilitation as well as punishment.

But some law enforcement officials and families of victims opposed her release. The \$1.6 million Brink's heist at a mall in suburban New York led to the shooting deaths of Brink's guard Peter Paige and Nyack police officers Edward O'Grady and Waverly Brown.

The parole board said it considered the letters in

support and opposition of Clark's release, as well as her post-release employment plans and low risk of future offenses.

"This perversion of justice is a sad continuation of the deadly assault on police officers happening across our nation and signals to the criminal element that it is open season on cops," Rockland County Executive Ed Day said in a statement Wednesday. □

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Bus carrying Germans crashes, kills 29 on Portugal's Madeira

By **BARRY HATTON**
Associated Press

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — A tour bus carrying German tourists crashed on Portugal's Madeira Island on Wednesday, killing 29 people and injuring 28 others, local authorities said.

The bus, which was carrying 55 people, rolled down a steep hillside after veering off the road on a bend east of the capital, Funchal, and struck at least one house, local mayor Filipe Sousa told cable news channel SIC.

Local television showed bodies scattered over a rural hillside next to the Atlantic Ocean. Madeira, off northwestern Africa, is a popular vacation destination for Europeans due to its mild climate and lush, hilly landscape.

The dead included 18 women and 11 men, one of whom died later at a hospital, Sousa told public broadcaster RTP.

Portuguese Foreign Minister Augusto Santos Silva said



Rescue officials attend the scene after a tour bus crashed in Canico on Portugal's Madeira Island, Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

preliminary reports he had received indicated all the dead were German. But Tomasia Alves, head of the Funchal hospital, said not all the victims had been identified and refused to confirm the nationality of

the dead.

Pedro Calado, vice president of Madeira's regional government, said at a news conference that the injured, including the Portuguese driver and a local tour guide, were taken to

a hospital. He did not say whether anyone who was not on the bus, including people on the roadside at the time of the accident, were among the victims. No children were among the dead and injured, Alves

said. She said at a news conference that two of the injured were Portuguese and the rest were foreign, but she declined to give further details.

The mayor said the bus was carrying a group of German tourists.

The German foreign ministry, in a tweet, expressed "great shock" at the accident. "We must unfortunately assume that victims are from Germany," it said. Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa said in a tweet that he had sent condolences to German Chancellor Angela Merkel. "I learned of this tragic accident in Madeira with deep sorrow," he said.

Portugal's air force said it had three aircraft on standby in case any injured needed to be taken to hospitals on the Portuguese mainland, almost 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) away. But Funchal hospital's clinical director, Dr. Pedro Freitas, said transfers were not necessary. □

Israel's president formally nominates Netanyahu as PM

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's president on Wednesday formally nominated Benjamin Netanyahu for a fourth consecutive term as prime minister, officially launching a process that is expected to result in a new government dominated by religious and nationalist parties in the coming weeks. In one of the president's few non-ceremonial roles, President Reuven Rivlin tasked Netanyahu with assembling a governing coalition within 42 days.

The move was widely expected after Netanyahu's Likud party and its right-wing allies captured a majority of seats in parliamentary elections last week. In a joint appearance after the two leaders signed and presented the official nomination, Rivlin called on Netanyahu to "heal the wounds and rifts" laid bare in Israeli society by the bruising election campaign.

Netanyahu said he was "moved" to accept his fifth nomination as prime minister "as though it's the first

time, and in a certain way, even more than the first time."

In a post-election ritual, Rivlin hosted consultations with party leaders this week to hear their recommendations for who should serve as the next prime minister. Netanyahu's right-wing bloc — made up of Kulanu, the Union of Right Wing Parties, Yisrael Beiteinu and the ultra-Orthodox Shas and United Torah Judaism — now commands a 65-55 majority in the 120-seat parliament. □



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu chairs the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Associated Press

German government halves 2019 growth forecast to 0.5%



German Economy Minister Peter Altmaier briefs the media about German government's economic growth forecast for 2019, during a news conference in Berlin, Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Associated Press

By GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — The German government on Wednesday slashed its 2019 economic growth forecast for the country for the second time this year, halving its outlook to a meager 0.5%. The update came less than three months after the government cut its forecast to 1% from 1.8% in late January. Weaker growth elsewhere as a result of global trade tensions and uncertainty over Britain's exit from the European Union has weighed on Germany's prospects — along with the after-effects of its own weak performance at the end of last year, when output was dragged down largely by one-time factors related to new car emis-

sions standards.

Economy Minister Peter Altmaier predicted growth of 1.5% in 2020, a marginally worse outlook than the 1.6% forecast in January. Last year, gross domestic product expanded by 1.4%.

Altmaier said growth should perk up in this year's second half, pointing to solid domestic demand, booming construction and expectations that the global economy will pick up. He also noted receding prospects of a chaotic no-deal Brexit and the possibility of Britain leaving the EU on softer terms than it originally envisioned after the deadline for its EU withdrawal was put back to Oct. 31.

Germany has Europe's biggest economy and is one of the world's biggest ex-

porters.

The government's economic outlook "is at the lower end of the forecast spectrum" in keeping with its tradition and, as it now stands, has a good chance of being reflected in reality, Altmaier said.

He rejected talk of a stimulus program for the economy, echoing comments this week by spokespeople for

Chancellor Angela Merkel and Finance Minister Olaf Scholz.

However, he said the government should "consider a moratorium on new measures that lead to burdens for business" until the economy "has again reached a clear path of growth."

Altmaier wouldn't specify what measures he meant ahead of discussions with

colleagues in the often-fractious governing coalition of Merkel's conservative bloc and the center-left Social Democrats.

The Federation of German Industries, an influential business lobby group, called for the government to provide incentives for investment in climate protection and to embark on a tax reform. □

Lightning hits Acropolis in Greece injuring 4, site intact

By NICHOLAS PAPHITIS
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A lightning bolt struck the Acropolis in Athens during a rainstorm Wednesday, lightly injuring two visitors and two guards but causing no damage to the country's most famous ancient site, Greek officials said.

A culture ministry statement said the citadel's lightning conductor, which is set apart from the 2,500-year-old marble buildings, was hit. The impact shattered glass windows in two nearby guard booths, and the guards inside as well as two female visitors were taken to hospital with light cuts.

The hilltop UNESCO World Heritage site is Greece's most popular archaeological site, attracting 3.15 million visitors last year.

The ministry said none of the Acropolis monuments, which include the 5th Century B.C. Parthenon and Erechtheion temples, were damaged. The two visitors were discharged from hospital after receiving first aid while the guards remained for precautionary reasons. □

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Lebanon's PM vows strict austerity reforms to avoid crash

By **BASSEM MROUE**

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Prime Minister Saad Hariri warned Wednesday that Lebanon is heading toward an economic "catastrophe" unless the government implements strict austerity measures to reduce a ballooning budget deficit and massive national debt.

The stark warning came shortly after parliament passed amendments necessary to implement an ambitious plan to restructure the country's crumbling electricity sector. Restructuring the power sector, dysfunctional since Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war, has been among key demands for reforms by the World Bank and international donors.

Outside parliament, hundreds of civil servants protested, fearing the austerity measures to be adopted in the new budget would lead to wage cuts for state employees amid the economic crisis. The budget is still in the works and is expected to be sent to parliament for approval in the coming weeks.



Civil servants protest in front of the government building during a parliament session to approve a plan to restructure the country's electricity sector, in Beirut, Lebanon, Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Associated Press

The electricity plan was approved by a large majority in parliament Wednesday, days after it was agreed on by the government. It aims to eventually bring electricity to the Lebanese 24 hours a day, securing an additional 1,450 megawatts of temporary power by next year so that total output will reach 3,500 megawatts — enough to provide power

around the clock.

In the longer term, the plan calls for power production to be increased by more than 3,000 megawatts over the next six years by building new plants and relying more on renewable energy.

Lebanese officials hope that plans to fix the electricity sector that has cost state coffers about \$2 billion annually would lead to the release of \$11 billion in loans and grants made by international donors at the CEDRE conference in Paris last year.

The protest by more than 2,000 state employees in downtown Beirut comes

amid discussions by the government of what it called "painful" and "unpopular" measures to be taken to try to cut the budget deficit and slow the growth of the national debt, which stands at more than \$85 billion, or more than 150% of the gross domestic product, making it among the highest in the world. "We have approved the electricity plan and we are working on the budget, which will include a wide austerity package," Hariri told journalists in a tense back and forth after Wednesday's parliament session. Without going into details, Hariri hinted that

some civil servants and members of the military may have to make "sacrifices," insisting that such steps will not affect the poor.

"I am not saying that Lebanon is about to collapse but if we don't take major steps, we will reach a place where no one wants to be," Hariri said. Speaking about overspending, Hariri added: "If we continue this way, we will reach a catastrophe."

He later posted on Twitter that his two-month old government "is obliged to put forth an austerity budget unprecedented in the history of Lebanon."

No agreement yet has been reached but leaks about possible wage cuts have led to random protests and street closures by members of a worried public. Foreign Minister Gebran Bassil tweeted over the weekend that if wages are not reduced, "there will be no salaries for anyone" in the future.

"The draft budget does not include so-called wage cuts," Finance Minister Ali Hassan Khalil told reporters after Wednesday's parliament session, seeking to calm nerves.

Some economists say the crisis has begun already and is getting worse every week with new waves of layoffs, rising debt and slow growth. □

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Iraqi war games: Army trains in desert, defeats 'militants'

By **PHILIP ISSA**

Associated Press

TAJI BASE, Iraq (AP) — The "militants" were holding on stubbornly to their position in the scabrous desert outside Baghdad, blocking the Iraqi troops' advance when an infantry unit sprung out of the right flank, forcing the enemy into a hasty retreat.

At first glance, it looked real, but the scenario playing out this week was not an operation against the Islamic State group but a military exercise.

The "militants" were Iraqi soldiers, and the guns were

firing blanks. The exercise was the final day in the drill of the 2,000-strong Iraqi brigade, the latest group to receive combat training from Australian, New Zealand, and Singaporean coalition forces at the sprawling Taji military base, north of Baghdad.

It's known as Task Group Taji 8 and the maneuver displayed some of the tactics drilled into the brigade during the eight-week course. Today, the group is a shadow of what it once was — IS no longer holds any urban areas on congruous stretch of territory but still

mounts kidnappings, ambushes and assassinations in rural Iraq.

"Our job is to keep the Iraqi security forces trained up to speed and make sure they can defeat Daesh whatever phase of the war they happen to be in," Groat added.

Training the Iraqi army is a core objective of the coalition.

Poorly trained and equipped, underfunded, and corrupted in the decade after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, the army disintegrated in the face of IS sweeping advance. □



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Sudan officials: Ousted president moved to Khartoum prison

By FAY ABUELGASIM
SAMY MAGDY

Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) —

Sudan's ruling military transferred ousted President Omar al-Bashir to a prison in the country's capital, a military official and former minister said as hundreds of people marched Wednesday to a sit-in outside the army headquarters in Khartoum, calling for a quick handover of power to a civilian leadership.

The military last week ousted al-Bashir following months of street protests against his 30-year rule, then appointed a military council it says would rule for no more than two years while elections are organized.

Since his ouster on Thursday, al-Bashir was held in custody at a "safe place." The military said it would not extradite him to the International Criminal Court to be tried over charges of war crimes and genocide in the region of Darfur, but would put him on trial at



Sudanese demonstrators march at a rally outside the army headquarters in the Sudanese capital Khartoum on Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

home.

The former minister told The Associated Press that al-Bashir had remained "under house arrest" at the presidential residence inside the army headquarters' compound in Khartoum.

He was then moved to Kopar Prison late Tuesday, according to the ex-minister.

The military official confirmed this. Both spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters.

Associated Press

Organizers of the street protests had demanded the military move al-Bashir to an official prison.

Meanwhile, hundreds joined a march by doctors and health workers toward the sit-in, which has become the epicenter of the

popular uprising in Sudan. Many wore white coats, waved Sudanese flags and chanted: "Freedom, peace, justice and the revolution is the people's choice."

The Sudanese Professionals Association, which is behind the protests, called on the military council to hand over power to a transitional civilian government that would rule for four years. The group fears that the army, dominated by al-Bashir appointees, will cling to power or select one of its own to succeed him.

Uganda's deputy foreign minister, Henry Okello Oryem, said Uganda "can consider" giving al-Bashir asylum if he wants it.

Oryem, who did not address the fact that al-Bashir is in custody, said the ousted Sudanese president had played a crucial role in efforts to achieve peace in neighboring South Sudan, which declared independence from Sudan in 2011 following decades of civil war. □

Jailed ex-SKorean president requests temporarily release

By TONG-HYUNG KIM

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Imprisoned former South Korean President Park Geun-hye on Wednesday requested a temporarily release so she can be treated for health problems her lawyer says are causing "burning" and "cutting" pain.

An official from the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office said it will soon review Park's request. He spoke on condition of anonymity, citing office rules against speaking to the media.

South Korean criminal law allows prisoners with seri-



In this Oct. 10, 2017, file photo, former South Korean President Park Geun-hye, left, arrives to attend a hearing on the extension of her detention at the Seoul Central District Court in Seoul, South Korea.

Associated Press

ous health problems to be treated at hospitals under the eye of prosecutors before returning to prison after recovery.

While Park has been permitted to make several visits to a Seoul hospital to receive pain management treatments, her conditions have worsened to a point where more serious medical care and surgery are required, Yoo said.

Park "has been struggling with a level of pain that makes it impossible for her to sleep normally, but she has been persevering with superhuman will," Yoo said. "It's no longer possible to treat the conditions while

she stays in prison."

The prosecution official did not confirm any details on Park's health.

The 67-year-old Park is serving a prison term of more than 30 years after being convicted in a massive corruption scandal that led to her removal from office and arrest in 2017.

Millions of protesters had poured onto the streets calling for Park's ouster amid allegations that she colluded with a longtime confidant to take tens of millions of dollars from companies in bribes and extortion and allowed the friend to secretly manipulate state affairs. □





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Ex-Peru president kills himself as police try to arrest him

By **FRANKLIN BRICEÑO**
CHRISTINE ARMARIO
Associated Press

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Former Peruvian President Alan García shot himself in the head and died Wednesday moments after police arrived at his home to arrest him on corruption allegations in Latin America's largest graft probe.

President Martin Vizcarra announced the death on Twitter, saying that doctors in the capital city of Lima performed emergency surgery and tried three times to resuscitate García.

It was a shocking end for a man who twice ruled Peru before becoming ensnared more recently in the corruption scandal involving the construction giant Odebrecht. The scandal has touched nearly every living former president.

When they arrived, police found García on the second floor of his home, a leafy mansion in the city's Miraflores district. He asked



In this July 11, 2011 file photo, Peru's outgoing President Alan García, left center, rides the new Line 1 electrical train system, in Lima, Peru.

for a moment to call his lawyer, entered a bedroom and closed the door behind him, Interior Minister Carlos Morán said.

"Minutes later, the sound of gunfire was heard," Morán

said. "Police forced their way into the room and found him."

Prosecutors suspect the former president received more than \$100,000 from Odebrecht, disguised as

Associated Press
a payment to speak at a conference in Brazil.

García repeatedly professed his innocence and said he was the victim of false testimony by political enemies who accused

him of taking more than \$100,000 from the company. Odebrecht admitted in a 2016 plea agreement with the U.S. Justice Department that it paid nearly \$800 million throughout Latin America in exchange for lucrative public works contracts. The former head of state's attorney accused authorities of neglecting to provide García with information on why he was being detained or show their official identifications when they showed up to arrest him. "The president, upset over this situation, knowing his absolute innocence ... had this terrible accident," attorney Erasmo Reyna said. The stunning turn of events comes four months after García sought asylum in Uruguay as prosecutors in Peru investigated allegations he illegally took payments from Odebrecht. He remained there for a little more than two weeks before his request was denied. □

Brazil announces financial package to avoid truckers' strike



Chief of Staff Onyx Lorenzoni speaks during a press conference regarding a potential truckers' strike, at the Planalto Presidential Palace, in Brasilia, Brazil, Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Associated Press

By **C.H. GARDINER**
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The government of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro announced Tuesday a financial package aimed at staving off a potential truckers' strike.

Brazilian Development Bank will be providing \$128 million in credit to truckers and the Ministry of Infrastructure will spend \$514 million on improving roads, said Chief of Staff Onyx Lorenzoni. The announce-

ment is part of a series of recent government decisions aimed at appeasing the sector.

Last month Bolsonaro announced via Twitter that he would not be renewing a contract for electronic radars saying that "the vast majority of them only exist for the sole purpose of financial return for the state."

An investigation by newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo found that the radars had resulted in a 21.7% reduc-

tion in fatalities on federal roads. On Thursday, Bolsonaro canceled a planned 5.7% increase in diesel prices. The decision caused shares in Brazil's state oil company Petrobras to drop more than 13%, with many investors fearing that it could signal a more interventionist strategy by the president similar to previous governments.

Onyx said the independence of Petrobras has not been jeopardized by Bolsonaro's decision. □

LOCAL



Rage Silver: Find Your Own World of Jewelry



PALM BEACH - "The best feeling to me is to see someone happy inside and outside because of my jewelry", says Marny de L'isle, owner of the hip stores Rage Silver. Are you looking for a perfect gift for your love ones or yourself, go here as you cannot go wrong. Cool European brands, known American jewelry and an outshining Caribbean design will for sure catch your taste. Rage Silver has an amazing store at Palm Beach Plaza and another gem at Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad.

Marny studied fashion design and that is visible in the store. Her collection reflects excellent taste which translates into hip brands like 'Uno de 50' from Spain which is a rebel in silver world. Big chunky jewelry that is out-of-the-box, edgy, all hand-crafted and silver-plated with a thick layer to remain affordable. "Initially they made only 50 pieces of one style but the brand became such a big hit that they expanded. These are statement pieces, showing character and confidence. They rock on a simple dress; you do not need anything else." 'Buddha to Buddha' from Amsterdam is another attraction, so bring your piece from Europe back home. The brand 'Rebecca,' from Italy carries a delicate line that is very elegant. Right now they have great necklaces with in big the initial of your name, following the current trend. "Initials, words, quotes and signs are hip right now. Therefore we have 'Key Moments,' stackable bracelets you can wear with anything that carry a 'hashtag' and word like '#Beautiful,' '#Strong' or '#Love.' It empowers people." Another trend according to Marny is combining bracelets and necklaces. "Multi rings creating your own look and the same with bracelets and necklaces are hot right now. Rebecca is perfect for this as the delicate line is cute to layer and combine with non-brands. Fit it to your clothes and play with it." A regional line Rage Silver offers is Beck Jewels from Curacao, featuring handmade jewelry with Swarovski stones and fresh water pearls, filled with gold. "Absolutely a success, with this jewelry you make the difference."



City Chic with Caribbean Breeze

Both Rage Silver stores have their own character. "The clientele is very broad, from children to 65+ we have them buying. Renaissance Marketplace tends to attract a younger crowd due to more non-brands and casual jewelry while Palm Beach Plaza offers upscale brands as well." Besides jewelry, the store at Palm Beach Plaza sells New York style, city chic clothing. "I just love New York and these clothing lines fit perfect to my jewelry lines. I focus on tops and dresses, all mixed fabrics and comfy to wear. Get your own look with a top and jewelry and BAM, you are ready."

The Story

The start of the store is actually a love story. "On a business trip for my job at that time I spent a few hours at Puerto Rico where I bought this silver bracelet for my now husband. It had little koko pellies on it and it was the perfect gift for him as he was a kite surfer/beach boy type. His friends were so enthusiastic about it that he told me: "Why don't we start a silver shop." With a little budget I started off selling rings of Mexican silver from the house and slowly expanded. Eventually we opened our first store together at Oranjestad. Today we got as far as two stores, one at Renaissance Marketplace and one at Palm Beach Plaza. We have a loyal local clientele as well as repeated visitors buying their favorite jewelry here."

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CHABAD HOSTS COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

"Relive the Passover Exodus" with Rabbi Ahron Blasberg

NOORD —Few Jewish holidays evoke the same warm sentiments as Passover. Memories of family and friends gathered as the four cups of wine are poured, the four questions asked and the Matzah served, all contribute to Passover's popularity in the Jewish community. Bringing the warmth and tradition of this festival to the Aruba Community, Chaba of Aruba is inviting all to participate in community Seders to be held on Friday night, April 19, and again on Saturday night, April 20.

The Seders take participants through the wondrous liberation of our ancestors from Egyptian bondage, while sharing the relevance and beauty of the age old festival in our modern lives. Included in the Seder will be a delectable catered dinner paired with a variety of fine imported wines and handmade round 'Shmurah' Matzah from Israel.

"Passover is not simply a celebration of the historic liberation of an ancient people," said Rabbi Ahron Blasberg, director of Chabad Aruba. "Passover is about our own personal liberation – physically, emotionally and spiritually. Passover inspires us to break free from the shackles restraining us from reaching new heights - in our lives, relationships and connection with G-d."

Chabad's community seder is part of a global



Passover campaign that began in 1954, when the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of blessed memory, considered the most influential rabbi in modern history, launched the Shmurah Matzah initiative as part of an effort to create awareness and promote observance

of the holiday. An estimated four million hand-baked Shmurah Matzahs will be distributed by the Chabad-Lubavitch movement this year. All are welcome to join the community seder. Reservations and more information can be made online at www.JewishAruba.com. □

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When the World's Riches Dissolve "Join the Fight Against Tangible Heritage Depreciation"



Maastricht – With great sadness this week on April 15th 2019, the entire world was devastated when millions of people saw the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris go into flames on livestream news. Feeling immensely hopeless, the Parisian community united and showed a tremendous amount of compassion and loyalty to one of the oldest architectural structures registered in the World Heritage Registry dating from 1160.

It took a century to build this glorious monument, it remained for a couple more centuries as a landmark in Paris, but it only took approximately two hours to be covered in flames. This creates a relevant discussion on tangible cultural heritage preservation and how we in Aruba value our monuments.

According to Ms. Audrey Azoulay, UNESCO's Director General, UNESCO would accompany and support the authorities in the recovery, rehabilitation and rebuilding of the damaged heritage site based on accurate documentation based on archival material, photos, films, historic documentation, plans and drawings. Besides

this, many donations have been made since the incident and it looks like the Notre Dame will receive the attention it needs and deserves. But, let's bring this discussion home and to our region. The Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Region possesses a rich cultural and natural heritage. The 33 countries have ratified the convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (SDG 11.4). The Region counts with 140 properties inscribed on the World Heritage List as follows: 97 cultural properties, 38 natural properties and 5 mixed properties.

World Heritage in the Caribbean Region

On 28 November 2014, in Havana, Cuba, the Caribbean States Parties to the 1972

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted the Caribbean Action Plan for World Heritage 2015–2019. The elaboration of the Action Plan was underpinned by the identification of challenges considered as sub-regional priorities for the State Parties on which to work in the Caribbean over the next five years, which included the following 7 action plans:

1. Conservation and Management
2. Nominations and Tentative Lists
3. Effects of Climate Change and Risk Management
4. Community Participation
5. Sustainable Tourism
6. Capacity Building
7. Networks and Partnerships

"Conservation and Management" is the first step in the latest Action Plan in preserving monuments and related heritage sites in the Caribbean. According to UNESCO, specific policies and laws related to heritage must be reviewed regularly and must incorporate a "local" approach. It also must strengthen coordination and communication between different levels of government and stakeholder agencies and individuals and ensure funding sources, either through specific budget lines or other external input. Considering these aspects, Aruba has been making numerous attempts with the help of different government and non-government organizations to preserve as much tangible heritage as possible.

However, Aruba has yet to implement concrete regulations and laws to protect historical buildings from disappearing. We know that recently the government has announced that the Uncle Louis Store in San Nicolas will be preserved and renovated. After this complete renovation, the Department of Nature and Environment of Aruba will be occupying the building. This building was constructed in the 50s and was designed by Jan Nagel, becoming later a local store that sold cloth and later the Aruban customs office. Even though this is a remarkable project, many other historical buildings in Aruba remain unprotected by the community and by Aruban law.

Continued on Page 17



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When the World's Riches Dissolve "Join the Fight Against Tangible Heritage Depreciation"



HERITAGE: DRIVER & ENABLER OF SUSTAINABILITY

Continued from Page 16

Next to this, there are still gaps in the elaboration of the inventories, situation that affects the updating of the tentative list. Despite the wealth of cultural landscapes in the Caribbean, According to UNESCO, their identification, protection, conservation and promotion is still not enough. We are simply not doing enough to protect our tangible heritage and Aruba should consider how this loss will affect cultural development on the island. We are simply not doing what we are supposed to and that we will regret looking back in a couple of years.

It is no secret that climate change and global warming will have detrimental consequences on the heritage preservation efforts of all islands in the Caribbean region. Making it even more important to have safeguarding policies in place when mother nature takes a left turn. According to UNESCO, Small Island Developing States, SIDS, due to their small size, limited resources and geo-

graphical dispersion, suffer unique and particular vulnerabilities to natural disasters and the negative effects of climate change. The Caribbean region has vulnerable coastlines and is constantly affected by hurricanes, prolonged periods of drought or rain with flooding and other weather phenomena which affect many of its structures. Capacity building, technology transfer, recognition of local knowledge, access to technical assistance and funding are essential. Let's not forget the hurricane disasters are sister islands experienced in the last years and decades, resulting in tremendous historical and architectural loss within these communities.

One of the key indicators mentioned in my 2018 bachelor research the participation of local people is essential in the process of identification, conservation, protection and management of heritage sites. Similarly, the value of local knowledge in managing disaster risks must be recognized. UNESCO keeps reiterating that cultural and natural heritage management must be integrated

into local sustainable development policies. Capacity-building efforts are essential for local communities to manage sites and reap the economic benefits associated with the promotion and protection of natural and cultural heritage.

Lastly, Aruba, like many islands in the Caribbean are heavily dependent on Tourism for economic development. In recent years, nature-related tourism has increased in the Caribbean and certainly cultural tourism has the potential to become a great attraction for visitors as indicated by ATHA and the Aruban government. It is neces-



sary to implement policies and strategies to promote responsible tourism and ensure its low impact on heritage sites.

Let's not forget the irresponsible act from tourists towards the Aruban natural heritage, who wrote personal messages on rock formations at the north coast of the island. The cultural and natural sector and the tourism industry must work together, and thus con-

tribute to improving visitor experiences and reinvest the benefits collected on the site for its conservation, to create jobs and improve infrastructure and services for its population and visitors. In the end, even though we cry and feel sadness watching the Notre Dame cry for help, let's not forget to value and give that same appreciation and attention to our own treasures. If we won't, who will?□

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SPORTS



Champions Patriots open vs. Steelers; 5 international games

By **BARRY WILNER**

AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP)— The NFL's 100th season will begin with its most classic rivalry and feature the Super Bowl champion Patriots hosting Pittsburgh in the first Sunday night game.

As previously announced, NFL 100 will kick off with Green Bay at Chicago for the 199th meeting of a series that began in 1921. That Sept. 5 game in the Thursday night slot usually reserved for hosting by the NFL champ forced New England to open three nights later.

The Patriots have a home schedule loaded with top attractions, including Kansas City on Dec. 8 in an AFC title game rematch, and Dallas on Nov. 24.

Monday night's double-header on ESPN will feature Houston at New Orleans and Denver at Oakland.

"We know every year there seems to be a last-to-first story," said new Broncos coach Vic Fangio, the Bears' defensive coordinator last season.

"We were that in Chicago last year. I suppose a lot of teams counted us as a win last year. Every season is a new season and the order they choose for us to play them in, we'll play them in."

Week 2 includes an intriguing Monday night match-up of Cleveland at the New York Jets.

The very first Monday night-er was a Browns win over Joe Namath and the defending champion Jets in 1970.



Yankees rout struggling Red Sox, 8-0

Boston Red Sox right fielder Mookie Betts leaps for but can't get to a solo home run by New York Yankees' Clint Frazier during the fourth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, April 16, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press
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Lightning swept by Columbus after historic regular season



Columbus Blue Jackets' Sergei Bobrovsky, left, of Russia, and Brandon Dubinsky celebrate their win over the Tampa Bay Lightning in Game 4 of an NHL hockey first-round playoff series, Tuesday, April 16, 2019, in Columbus, Ohio. The Blue Jackets beat the Lightning 7-3.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press
COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The Tampa Bay Lightning ended up on the wrong side of NHL history, getting swept in the first round of the playoffs after one of the best regular seasons ever. The Columbus Blue Jackets capped a stunning sweep of the Presidents Trophy winners with a 7-3 victory Tuesday night. Tampa Bay became the first team in the expansion era, which began in 1967-68, to go winless in the first round of the playoffs after leading the league in points during the regular season. And what a season it was. Tampa Bay tied the NHL record for wins with 62 and amassed 128 points, fourth in NHL history. The Blue Jackets, meanwhile, didn't clinch the second Eastern Conference wild-card spot until the 81st game. But they outplayed the Lightning with a smothering forecheck and stellar goaltending by Sergei Bobrovsky.

Columbus won its first-ever playoff series in its fifth try and advances to play the winner of the Boston-Toronto series, which the Maple Leafs lead 2-1. Rookie Alexandre Texier scored twice for the Blue Jackets. Pierre Luc-Dubois had a goal and a pair of assists. Oliver Bjorkstrand scored the go-ahead goal after Tampa Bay tied it at 3. Steven Stamkos, Cedric Paquette and Brayden Point scored for Tampa Bay, which never led in this elimination game.

ISLANDERS 3, PENGUINS 1
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jordan Eberle scored for the fourth straight game, Robin Lehner stopped 32 shots and New York finished off Sidney Crosby and Pittsburgh to pull off a stunning sweep. Josh Bailey set up Brock Nelson's go-ahead goal late in the first period and added an empty-net score with 38 seconds remaining as the Islanders easily captured the franchise's second playoff series victory in 26 years.

The Islanders trailed for less than five minutes across four games against the Penguins, whose 13th straight postseason appearance ended quietly. Pittsburgh managed just six goals in the series, including Jake Guentzel's first of the postseason 35 seconds into the game.

It wasn't nearly enough to stop the Islanders.

Penguins defenseman Kris Letang whiffed while trying to pinch into the New York zone, creating a 2-on-1 the other way that Eberle finished to even it at 1 just 1:34 after Guentzel had put Pittsburgh in front.

JETS 2, BLUES 1, OT

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Kyle Connor scored 6:02 into overtime and Winnipeg beat St. Louis to tie their Western

Conference series at two games apiece.

Mark Scheifele also scored and Connor Hellebuyck made 31 saves for the Jets, who arrived in St. Louis down 2-0.

It is the only first-round series in which the home team has failed to win a game.

Game 5 is Thursday night back in Winnipeg.

Vladimir Tarasenko scored early in the third period and Jordan Binnington made 37 saves for the Blues.

Scheifele tied it at the 7:33 mark, tipping in a feed from Connor.

Connor ended it when he banged home a feed from Scheifele for his third goal in two games.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 5, SHARKS 0

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Max

Pacioretty had two goals and two assists, Marc-Andre Fleury earned his 15th playoff shutout and Vegas blanked San Jose for a 3-1 lead in their best-of-seven Western Conference series. Vegas can eliminate the Sharks from the postseason for the second consecutive year on Thursday in San Jose.

Since losing Game 1 on the road, the Golden Knights have never trailed and they've outscored the Sharks 16-6.

Fleury, who made 28 saves, has stopped 87 of 93 shots in the last three games. Shea Theodore, Alex Tuch and Jonathan Marchessault also scored.

Nate Schmidt and Reilly Smith each had two assists. □

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Yanks beat Red Sox 8-0 in matchup of struggling foes

By The Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — James Paxton struck out 12 in his first stab at baseball's biggest rivalry, Red Sox ace Chris Sale found his fast-ball but not better results, and the New York Yankees three-hit Boston 8-0 on Tuesday night in the first game this season between the struggling AL East foes. Paxton (2-2) pitched two-hit ball for eight innings, walking one and going to just two three-ball counts in a game that took only 2 hours, 23 minutes.

Mike Tauchman hit his first major league homer and drove in four runs, and Clint Frazier and Gleyber Torres also went deep for the Yankees. New York had dropped five of six and is 7-9 a year after winning 100 games.

Sale (0-4) reached 97.5 mph — a positive sign for Boston after his velocity sagged this spring — but still got hit around, allowing four runs and seven hits over five innings. He struck out six and walked one while the World Series champions dropped to 6-12.

PIRATES 5, TIGERS 3, 10 INNINGS

DETROIT (AP) — Starling Marte hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning to lift Pittsburgh over Detroit.

Jung Ho Kang also went deep for Pittsburgh, which blew a 3-0 lead but recovered to win when Marte hit a two-out drive off Shane Greene (0-1). Detroit's closer hadn't allowed a run all season.

Keone Kela (1-0) gave up a tying single by Jeimer Can-



New York Yankees starting pitcher James Paxton delivers during the first inning of the team's baseball game against the Boston Red Sox, Tuesday, April 16, 2019, in New York.

delario in the ninth, but Nick Kingham was able to close out the Tigers in the 10th for his first career save. Pittsburgh starter Joe Musgrove permitted his first two earned runs of the season. He yielded six hits and a walk while striking out six in seven innings.

Tigers starter Matthew Boyd struck out the side in the first but eventually allowed three runs in seven innings.

RAYS 4, ORIOLES 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Tyler Glasnow allowed two runs over seven innings in winning his fourth consecutive start to begin the season and Avisail Garcia drove in three runs as Tampa Bay beat Baltimore for its seventh win in eight games.

Glasnow (4-0) allowed hits to six of the first 13 batters, but allowed one hit over his final 4 2/3 innings and ended the outing by retiring 10 in a row.

Garcia hit a two-run homer during a three-run fourth, and added an RBI single in the eighth. Jose Alvarado and Diego Castillo, who earned his second save, each went a perfect inning.

The Orioles got an RBI from both Rio Ruiz and Renato Nunez, and Dylan Bundy (0-2) gave up three runs and three hits over five innings.

BLUE JAYS 6, TWINS 5

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Teoscar Hernandez and Justin Smoak hit two-run singles as Toronto rallied past Minnesota.

Hernandez singled off Twins reliever Trevor Hildenberger in the top of the seventh to give Toronto a 6-4 lead. Hernandez had capitalized against Minnesota's bullpen a day earlier, too, hitting a home run in the eighth inning that gave the Blue Jays a 5-3 win Monday.

The game ended with the

Twins' C.J. Cron getting thrown out at home plate. Cron tried to score from first base on a double to left field by Byron Buxton.

Eddie Rosario hit a three-run home run and Jorge Polanco and Marwin Gonzalez also homered for the Twins.

Aaron Sanchez (2-1) allowed four runs in six innings to earn the win for Toronto. Reliever Trevor May (1-1) was charged with the loss for Minnesota.

RANGERS 5, ANGELS 0

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Mike Minor threw a three-hitter for his first career shut-out, backed by two-run homers by Joey Gallo and Asdrubal Cabrera, as Texas beat Los Angeles.

Minor (2-1) limited Los Angeles to three singles while throwing 103 pitches with seven strikeouts and two walks.

Cabrera put Texas up 3-0 when his deep fly appeared to ricochet off the wrist of leaping right fielder Kole Calhoun and go over the 8-foot wall in the fourth off Jaime Barria (1-1).

Gallo pulled a 439-foot shot that landed on the concourse beyond the lower-level seats to greet reliever Dillon Peters in the sixth and make it 5-0.

It was the sixth homer of the season for both Gallo and Cabrera.

WHITE SOX 5, ROYALS 1

CHICAGO (AP) — Yoan Moncada hit a pair of solo shots for his first multihomer game and Leury Garcia added a two-run drive to power Chicago past Kansas City.

Yonder Alonso also homered and went 4 for 4 as the White Sox won for the fourth time in five games.

Reynaldo Lopez (1-2) allowed one run and five hits in six innings. Four relievers worked the final three innings for Chicago.

Lucas Duda homered for the Royals.

Kansas City starter Jorge Lopez (0-2) had a career-high 10 strikeouts but gave up three homers and allowed four runs on eight hits in six innings.

INDIANS 4, MARINERS 2

SEATTLE (AP) — Shane Bieber struck out five and combined with three relievers to hold Seattle to six hits as Cleveland stretched its winning streak to three games.

The Mariners extended their major league record home-run streak to start the season to 20 games. Jay Bruce hit his eighth home run, a solo shot to right-center field in the eighth. Seattle now has 42 home runs, yet is mired in a five-game losing streak.

Bieber (2-0) worked out of trouble several times to keep the Mariners in check. He allowed three walks, and improved to 9-0 on the road in his career. His 13 straight road starts without a loss to start his career is the third-longest streak in the major leagues since 2000.

Mike Freeman had an RBI single and Leonys Martin an RBI double for the Indians.

Mariners starter Mike Leake (2-1) was pulled after the sixth. □



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ARUBA WINE & DINE

Kingery, Realmuto pace Phillies in 14-3 win over Mets

By The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Scott Kingery and J.T. Realmuto each had three hits and five RBIs as Philadelphia routed New York.

Kingery and Maikel Franco hit three-run homers and Realmuto had a pair of two-run doubles in a 10-run first inning. Realmuto also went deep for the Phillies in the fourth.

Nick Pivetta (2-1) gave up three runs and seven hits in five innings.

Mets starter Steven Matz (1-1) allowed eight runs — six earned — without retiring a batter. He had allowed only three earned runs total in his first three starts. The lefty's ERA rose from 1.65 to 4.96.

Wilson Ramos and Michael Conforto each hit a solo homer for New York.

CUBS 4, MARLINS 0

MIAMI (AP) — Jose Quintana gave up six hits in seven innings to lead Chicago over Miami.

Quintana (2-1) struck out seven and extended his scoreless innings streak to 14. He didn't allow a runner to reach second until Austin Dean's two-out double in the seventh.

Javier Baez went 3 for 4 and hit his fifth homer, a solo shot to the opposite field off Adam Conley in the eighth. Baez has three hits in each of his last three games. Ben Zobrist hit a sacrifice fly in the ninth for Chicago's fourth run.

Brandon Kintzler relieved

Quintana and surrendered a two-out single to Brian Anderson and walked Starlin Castro. Pedro Strop pitched a scoreless ninth for the Cubs, who have won five of six.

GIANTS 7, NATIONALS 3

WASHINGTON (AP) — Evan Longoria, Brandon Belt and Steven Duggar homered off fastballs from Stephen Strasburg and light-hitting San Francisco powered past Washington.

The Giants entered the game with 10 homers through their first 17 games. They won for the fourth time in five games.

Strasburg (1-1) allowed four runs in six innings. Still learning to pitch with a fastball that sits in the low-to-mid-90s, instead of the high-90s heat he possessed before Tommy John surgery and other ailments, he's served up five homers over his past two outings.

Dereck Rodriguez (2-2), son of Hall of Famer and former Nationals catcher Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez, gave up one run and five hits in five innings.

DIAMONDBACKS 9, BRAVES 6

ATLANTA (AP) — Christian Walker homered leading off the ninth inning and Arizona rallied against the shaky Atlanta bullpen. The Braves squandered a massive, knee-buckling homer by Ronald Acuña Jr. and another strong start by Max Fried.

Johan Camargo's three-



Philadelphia Phillies' J.T. Realmuto, left, scores past New York Mets catcher Wilson Ramos on a two-run double by Scott Kingery during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, April 16, 2019, in Philadelphia. Philadelphia won 14-3.

Associated Press

run double in the fifth put the Braves ahead. Fried finally gave up his first earned runs of the season but left with a 5-2 lead, only to watch the relievers give it away.

Chad Sobotka and Jesse Biddle didn't retire anyone as the Diamondbacks pushed across four runs in the seventh to reclaim the lead.

After Ozzie Albies homered in the bottom half to tie the game at 6, Walker drove the second pitch from A.J. Minter (0-2) deep into the seats to start the ninth. Adam Jones brought home two insurance runs with a double that deflected off the glove of Acuña.

Yoshihisa Hirano (1-1) claimed the win. Greg Holland picked up his third save.

Acuña launched a 448-foot shot over the Braves' bullpen in right-center field. Walker went 3-for-4 with

two RBIs. Eduardo Escobar also drove in two runs.

BREWERS 8, CARDINALS 4

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Christian Yelich hit a three-run homer, his eighth against St. Louis this season, to help send Milwaukee to the win. Lorenzo Cain and Yasmani Grandal each homered in a five-run third against Jack Flaherty (1-1), when the Brewers went up 5-0.

Yelich's 427-foot homer to right center in the fifth inning was his ninth of the season and put Milwaukee up 8-0.

He is the first player to homer in six consecutive games against the Cardinals. The Brewers have won nine of their last 10 against St. Louis, including four in a row.

Brandon Woodruff (2-1) held the Cardinals scoreless until Marcell Ozuna's two-run homer, his seventh, with one out in the sixth. Woodruff allowed two runs on seven hits in 5 2/3 in-

nings, striking out six.

The Cardinals added two in the eighth on RBI singles by Yadier Molina and Kolten Wong.

ROCKIES 8, PADRES 2

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Nolan Arenado homered for the third straight game — a two-run shot on his 28th birthday — and Jon Gray pitched seven strong innings as Colorado beat San Diego for a two-game sweep and its first three-game winning streak of the season.

Gray (1-3) allowed a home run in an NL-record 16th straight game when Wil Myers connected leading off the fifth, but otherwise tamed the Padres, who have lost three straight for the first time this season. Gray improved to 9-3 lifetime against San Diego by holding the Padres to one run and three hits while striking out five and walking three. □

Leonard, Raptors rout Magic; Murray rallies Nuggets

By The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Kawhi Leonard scored 37 points, Kyle Lowry bounced back from a scoreless playoff opener with 22 and the Toronto Raptors routed the Orlando Magic 111-82 on Tuesday night, evening their Eastern Conference first-round series at one win apiece.

Pascal Siakam had 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Raptors, who never trailed and led by as many as 34.

Game 3 is Friday night in Orlando.

Despite playing in foul trouble for much of the night, Leonard finished with a career playoff-high 15 field goals. He made his first nine attempts from inside the arc before missing a layup. He shot 15 for 22 before leaving to a standing ovation with 4:46 remaining and Toronto ahead 104-73. Lowry, who missed all seven attempts in Game 1, shot 8 for 13 and added seven assists.

Aaron Gordon scored 20 points, Terrence Ross had 15 and Evan Fournier 10 for the Magic, who won Saturday's Game 1 104-101



Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry, right, falls after being fouled by Orlando Magic guard Michael Carter-Williams (7) during the first half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Tuesday, April 16, 2019, in Toronto.

on a tiebreaking 3 by D.J. Augustin with 4.2 seconds to go.

NUGGETS 114, SPURS 105

DENVER (AP) — Jamal Murray missed his first eight shots before a scorching fourth quarter in which he scored 21 of his 24 points, leading Denver past San

Antonio and knotting their playoff series at a game apiece.

The Nuggets were in danger of losing a second straight game at the Pepsi Center after posting the NBA's best home record (34-7) during the regular season. They trailed 78-59

late in the third quarter before closing the game on a 55-27 run.

The series shifts to San Antonio, where the Nuggets haven't won since 2012, for Game 3 on Thursday night. Paul Millsap added 20 points for Denver and Nikola Jokic just missed his sec-

Associated Press

ond triple-double of the series, scoring 21 points, pulling down 13 rebounds and dishing out eight assists.

The Spurs got 31 points from DeMar DeRozan, 24 from LaMarcus Aldridge and 17 from Derrick White.

TRAIL BLAZERS 114, THUNDER 94

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — CJ McCollum had 33 points, Damian Lillard added 29 and Portland took a 2-0 lead in its first-round playoff series against Oklahoma City.

Maurice Harkless added 14 points and nine rebounds for the third-seeded Blazers, who opened a playoff series with two wins for the first time since the 2014 playoffs, when they beat Houston in six games.

The series shifts to Oklahoma City for Game 3 on Friday.

Russell Westbrook, who had his ninth career postseason triple-double in Oklahoma City's Game 1 loss, finished with 14 points, nine rebounds and 11 assists. Paul George had 27 points despite lingering questions about his right shoulder, which was covered with kinesiology tape. □

WNBA MVP Breanna Stewart tears Achilles tendon in right leg



In this Sept. 7, 2018, file photo, Seattle Storm's Breanna Stewart (30) drives past Washington Mystics' Elena Delle Donne during the first half of Game 1 of the WNBA basketball finals, in Seattle.

Associated Press

By DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Reigning WNBA MVP Breanna Stewart is expected to miss the upcoming season after she ruptured the Achilles tendon in her right ankle.

Stewart injured the leg on Sunday in the EuroLeague Women championship game in Hungary. She flew to Los Angeles where test results confirmed the injury.

The Seattle Storm announced the diagnosis on Wednesday.

"As we all know there are highs and lows throughout a career," Stewart posted on her Twitter account. "This is just another obstacle that I will overcome. I'm thankful that I have so many people in my corner to help me every step of the way. I'm feeling every emotion possible at this point but just know that the bounce back will be real and I'll be back better than ever."

She will undergo surgery performed by Dr. Neal ElAttrache at a date to be determined. She is expected to make a full recovery for the start of the 2020 season. Stewart was playing for Dynamo Kursk, a Russian club, when she appeared to land

awkwardly on the foot of fellow WNBA star Brittney Griner after attempting a jumper late in the first half against UMMC Ekaterinburg. She immediately grabbed at her lower right leg while grimacing in obvious pain.

Stewart was attended to by trainers on the court before being helped to the locker room while not putting any weight on her right leg.

"This is a tough time for Stewie and our hearts go out to her," Storm CEO and General Manager Alisha Valavanis said. "The Storm family is behind her and we will support Stewie in every way we can as she begins her journey back to the court."

The 24-year-old Stewart won four national titles at UConn, and was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2016 WNBA draft. She won both the league and finals MVP awards while leading the Storm to the franchise's third WNBA title this past season.

Stewart has played overseas in the off-season since she joined the WNBA. Her Dynamo Kursk squad fell 91-67 after she left the game.

The WNBA season begins May 24. □

Patriots vs. Steelers

Continued from Page 18

This one will feature the return to the Meadowlands for now-Browns receiver Odell Beckham Jr., and two young, potential star quarterbacks in Cleveland's Baker Mayfield and New York's Sam Darnold. National broadcasts rarely have included the down-trodden Browns, but they're a popular choice this year: Cleveland will have four prime-time games, also facing the Rams, San Francisco and archrival Pittsburgh.

Every team will have at least one national TV appearance. New England, Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Green Bay, Seattle and the Rams get the maximum prime-time games, five. The traditional Thanksgiving Day games will have Detroit at home to Chicago, then Buffalo at Dallas. The night game to close the holiday schedule will be New Orleans at Atlanta in another long-time rivalry. The NFC champion Los Angeles Rams will host Cincinnati in London for one of five international games on the 2019 schedule. The Rams and Bengals will face

off at Wembley Stadium on Oct. 27. Earlier in October, the league will play two games at Tottenham Hotspur's new stadium in London. The Raiders will host the Bears on Oct. 6, and the Buccaneers will be the home team against the Panthers on Oct. 13.

Wembley will be the site of the fourth London match, with Houston facing host Jacksonville on Nov. 3.

The league returns to Mexico, after last season's Chiefs-Rams game was moved to Los Angeles because of poor field conditions at Azteca Stadium. On Monday night Nov. 18, the Chiefs will play LA's other team, the Chargers.

In Week 16, the NFL has left 10 teams in semi-limbo. Three games are scheduled for NFL Network on Saturday, Dec. 21, and will be chosen among these five: Detroit at Denver; Oakland at the LA Chargers; Buffalo at New England; the Rams at San Francisco 49ers; and Houston at Tampa Bay. The non-Saturday games will be played Sunday.

The season ends Dec. 29, when Chicago finishes at Minnesota for the fourth successive year. All finales



In this Feb. 20, 2019, file photo, the new Tottenham Hotspur stadium in north London is viewed.

are divisional games for the 11th straight season.

"This is an exciting time," said Giants coach Pat Shurmur, whose team opens at Dallas. "This week, we started the offseason program. And now we can see when we're going to play. We knew who our opponents would be and where we are going to play, but there's an excitement that builds once the schedule comes out."

Among the oddities, in one stretch the Raiders will go

seven weeks before playing a game in Oakland. They entertain the Chiefs on Sept. 15, then have road games at Minnesota and Indianapolis, host Chicago in London, are off Oct. 13, then go to Green Bay and Houston. They return to Oakland on Nov. 3. Miami opens with four 2018 playoff opponents: home for Baltimore and New England, at Dallas, home for the Chargers. Then the Dolphins have a bye. One team, Philadelphia

has three straight home games and three consecutive road games. No other team has three away matches in a row, though the Rams will be away from LA for a visit to Atlanta on Oct. 20, that "home" contest in London the next week, then a bye and a trip to Pittsburgh.

Also with three straight home games will be Green Bay, Atlanta, Arizona, San Francisco, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Houston. □

Associated Press

Olympic silver medalist also has testosterone condition

By GERALD IMRAY
AP Sports Writer

Caster Semenya's closest rival also has a condition that gives her high levels of naturally occurring testosterone and would be affected if track and field's governing body implements a contentious rule to control hormone levels.

Francine Niyonsaba of Burundi, who won silver medals behind Semenya in the 800 meters at the 2016 Olympics and 2017 world championships, said in an interview with the Olympic Channel that she has hyperandrogenism, the first time she's spoken about it publicly. And echoing the argument of Semenya, the 25-year-old Niyonsaba called the IAAF's intention to force some female athletes to lower their natural testosterone levels or be



In this file photo dated Friday, Aug. 11, 2017, Burundi's Francine Niyonsaba reacts after winning a Women's 800m semifinal during the World Athletics Championships in London.

Associated Press

barred from certain events "discrimination."

"I know people talk, talk, talk about me," Niyonsaba said. "You can't stop people talking. I like to hear people talking. That is motivation."

"I didn't choose to be born

like this. What am I? I'm created by god. So, (if) someone has more questions about it, maybe (they) can ask god. I love myself. I will still be Francine. I will not change." Referring to the rule, Niyonsaba said: "For me, it's about discrimi-

nation. It doesn't make sense." The IAAF wants Semenya, Niyonsaba and other female athletes with high levels of natural testosterone to lower them — either through medication or surgery — to be eligible to compete in events from 400 meters to the mile at top track meets like the Olympics. The IAAF argues that female runners with abnormally high testosterone levels have an unfair advantage. Semenya, the two-time Olympic champion from South Africa, is challenging that at the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the decision, now expected at the end of the month, could have serious ramifications for female runners.

Semenya, Niyonsaba and possibly other medal-winning athletes could be

forced to take hormone-suppressing medication for the remainder of their careers or give up their favored events. The IAAF has records that show numerous athletes have the condition but has never identified them because confidential medical details are involved. Previously, Semenya and Indian sprinter Dutee Chand were the only top athletes to say they had hyperandrogenism, and Semenya only said it publicly recently in written statements regarding her case against the IAAF.

Semenya and Niyonsaba finishing 1-2 in the 800 at the last two major meets appears to strengthen the IAAF's stance that hyperandrogenism gives runners a significant and unfair advantage. Niyonsaba rejected that. □



In this Jan. 9, 2019, file photo a sign advertises 5G at the Qualcomm booth at CES International in Las Vegas. In this Jan. 9, 2019, file photo a sign advertises 5G at the Qualcomm booth at CES International in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

Apple, Qualcomm settle bitter dispute over iPhone technology

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE**
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Apple and mobile chip maker Qualcomm have settled a bitter financial dispute centered on some of the technology that enables iPhones to connect to the internet. The surprise truce announced Tuesday came just as the former allies turned antagonists were facing off in a federal court trial that was supposed to unfold over the next month in San Diego. The resolution abruptly ended that trial, which also involved Apple's key iPhone suppliers.

The deal requires Apple to pay Qualcomm an undisclosed amount. It also includes a six-year licensing agreement that likely involves recurring payments to the mobile chip maker. Investors reacted as if it were a resounding victory for Qualcomm. The San Diego company's stock soared 23% to close Tuesday at \$70.45. Apple shares edged up 2 cents to \$199.25.

Neither Apple nor Qualcomm would comment beyond a brief statement announcing they had resolved their differences. Details about how much Apple and its iPhone suppliers will be paying Qualcomm could emerge in court documents or when the companies announce their latest financial results. Apple is due to report its quarterly results on April 30 while Qualcomm is scheduled to release its numbers on May 1.

Apple had been seeking at least \$1 billion for money that Qualcomm was supposed to rebate as part of an earlier licensing agreement. Apple had begun to have misgivings about that deal as it added more features to its increasingly popular line-up of iPhones. Qualcomm was seeking \$7 billion for unpaid royalties

it contended it was owed for its patented technology in the iPhone. Apple's iPhone suppliers, including Foxconn and Pegatron, wanted another \$27 billion from Qualcomm.

The dispute was clearly beginning to hurt all parties involved, motivating them to settle, said technology industry analyst Patrick Moorhead of Moor Insights & Strategy.

Qualcomm also held another bargaining chip: It makes the modem chips needed for future smartphones to work with the next generation of high-speed wireless networks known as "5G." Two of Apple's biggest rivals, Samsung and Huawei, are already getting ready to introduce 5G models. The iPhone would have been at a disadvantage if it didn't have a pipeline to Qualcomm's chips.

Falling behind the competition isn't something Apple can afford with its iPhone sales already falling.

"Ultimately, Apple realized this was more about two kids fighting in the sandbox and they have bigger issues ahead with 5G and iPhone softness versus battling Qualcomm in court," Wedbush Securities analyst Daniel Ives wrote in Tuesday research note. □



This March 19, 2018, file photo shows the Netflix app on an iPad in Baltimore. Netflix reports financial results Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Associated Press

Netflix adds 9.6M subscribers in 1Q as competition heats up

By **MICHAEL LIEDTKE**
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Netflix kicked off the year with the biggest subscriber gains in the history of its video-streaming service, but it still managed to disappoint investors by forecasting a springtime slowdown.

The strong first-quarter performance coincided with Netflix's biggest U.S. price increases and emerging streaming challenges from Walt Disney and Apple, two of the world's most popular brands.

The video service added 9.6 million subscribers worldwide during the first quarter of 2019, topping the projections of both Netflix's own management and Wall Street analysts. It's the most subscribers that Netflix has gained during any three-month stretch since the Los Gatos, California, company unveiled its streaming service 12 years ago.

The surge announced Tuesday left Netflix with nearly 149 million subscribers through March.

Netflix expects to add another 5 million subscribers during the current quarter ending June, but that projection fell well below analysts' forecast. It would also represent a decline from the 5.9 million customers that the service picked up during the same period last year.

Netflix's stock dipped 1% in extended trading to

\$355.85 after the numbers came out.

In a discussion streamed on video, Netflix CEO Reed Hastings likened the past quarter to a "perfect clean shot" down the middle of a golf course's fairway while drawing comparisons to Tiger Woods' victory in the Masters tournament.

Netflix tested the bounds of its popularity with a recent price hike that raised the cost of its most popular plan to \$13 a month, a \$2 increase. New U.S. subscribers had to start paying the higher price in January, but it only recently started to hit existing customers.

The company said it doesn't expect the price increase to trigger significant cancellations, though its second-quarter forecast implies otherwise. It expects to add just 300,000 U.S. subscribers from April through June, down from 700,000 at the same time last year. Competition facing Netflix will heat up toward the end of this year when both Disney and Apple plan to start selling their own video-streaming services backed by big budgets.

Disney's offering, due out in November, could be a bigger threat because it will feature a library of classic films supplemented with original programming cooked up by a company with a proven record of churning out crowd-pleasing entertainment. □



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Liz Weston: Your 401(k) just got more valuable

By LIZ WESTON
NerdWallet
Associated Press

If your tax refund this year was disappointing, you may be able to do something about it: Contribute more to a retirement fund. Tax-deductible contributions to 401(k)s, IRAs and other retirement accounts are among the few remaining ways to reduce taxable income if you don't itemize deductions. And few of us do these days: Only about 1 in 10 taxpayers is expected to itemize now that Congress has nearly doubled the standard deduction, tax experts say. That's down from about 1 in 3 before the law changed.

FEWER WAYS TO TRIM TAX BILLS

As a result, many of the traditional tips and tricks for reducing tax bills either no longer work or are of limited help. Deductions for mortgage interest, charitable contributions and medical expenses, for example, can be taken only if you itemize. In addition to increasing standard deductions, the tax law enacted in December 2017 also did away with personal exemptions and curbed or eliminated many other common deductions: — Unreimbursed work expenses, tax prep fees and job search costs are no longer deductible. — Moving expenses aren't deductible unless you're active-duty military. — Casualty and theft losses are deductible only in a

federally declared disaster area.

— State and local tax deductions are capped at

vantage of those deductions, but the vast majority of working people can contribute to retirement plans,



This April 2017, file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

\$10,000.

— Home equity loan interest is deductible only if the money was used to substantially improve your home.

Student loan interest is still deductible if you don't itemize, as are certain self-employment expenses. You can reduce taxable income by contributing to workplace flexible spending accounts and the health savings accounts that are paired with high-deductible health insurance plans.

RETIREMENT PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS OFFER MULTIPLE BENEFITS

Not everyone can take ad-

says Michael Eisenberg, a CPA personal finance specialist with the AICPA's National CPA Financial Literacy Commission.

If you don't have a workplace plan such as a 401(k), you can make tax-deductible contributions to an IRA as long as you're under 70½ and have earned income, typically from salary, wages or self-employment income, that's at least equal to your contribution. People can put up to \$6,000 into an IRA in 2019, or \$7,000 if they're 50 or older. (If you or your spouse has a workplace plan, you can still CONTRIBUTE to an IRA, but how much you

can DEDUCT depends on your income. Check the IRS site for details.)

Contribution limits are higher for workplace plans such as 401(k)s: \$19,000 for 2019, or \$25,000 if you're 50 or older. If you have a workplace plan, your company also likely offers matching funds, says Jarod Taylor, a financial counselor in Westerville, Ohio.

"Let's say you put in 4% (of your pay), and your employer matches that up to 4%," Taylor says. "You just gave yourself a 4% bonus." Lower-income taxpayers may receive an additional benefit: a tax credit of up to \$2,000 for single people or \$4,000 for married couples filing jointly that can further reduce the cost of contributions. Tax credits are even more valuable than deductions, and it's rare to get both at the same time. Credits of 50%, 20% or 10% of retirement contributions are available for singles with adjusted gross income up to \$32,000 or \$64,000 for a married couple filing jointly.

HOW TO FIND THE MONEY

For many people, tax refunds aren't "extra" money. Every dollar may be needed to catch up on overdue bills or pay for health care. If that's not the case, though, you could put a chunk of this year's refund into a retirement account. You can do that directly, by opening or contributing to an IRA. Or you can boost your 401(k) contribution

and use the refund to help replace money deducted from your paycheck.

If you don't mind a smaller refund and just want to pay less taxes, another possibility is reducing your withholding and channeling the additional money into your retirement fund, Taylor says. Taylor also advises clients to look for small expenses to trim, such as negotiating a cheaper cable package and avoiding bank fees.

"You've already been living without that money, so just funnel that off to saving for retirement," Taylor says. Even small amounts can add up. As traditional pensions become rarer, it's important for most people to save if they want a comfortable retirement.

"You don't want to work for many, many years and wind up, if you can help it, living on Social Security alone," Eisenberg says. □



Mutts



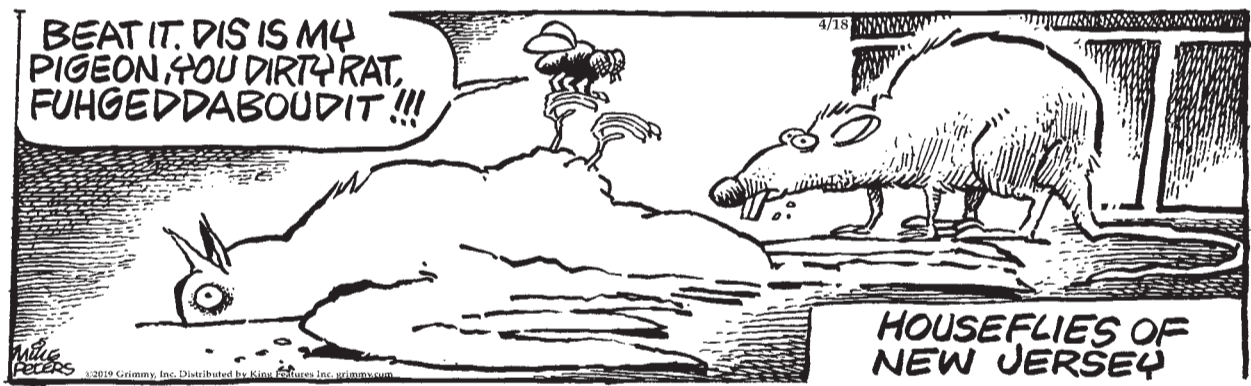
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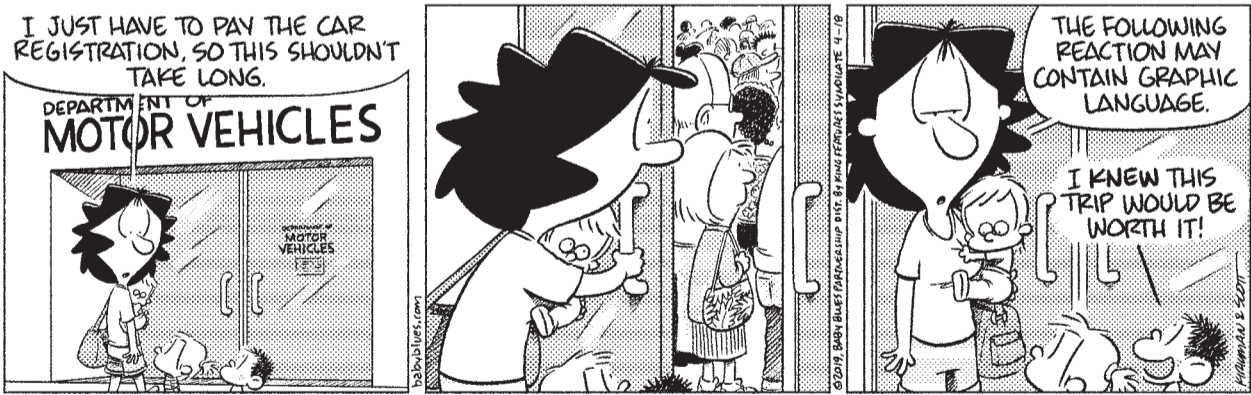
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5					4		
8			6			3		
				2	9		8	7
	6					7		
		4		9		1		
		3					9	
2	9		5	6				
		1			8			2
		8					4	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/18

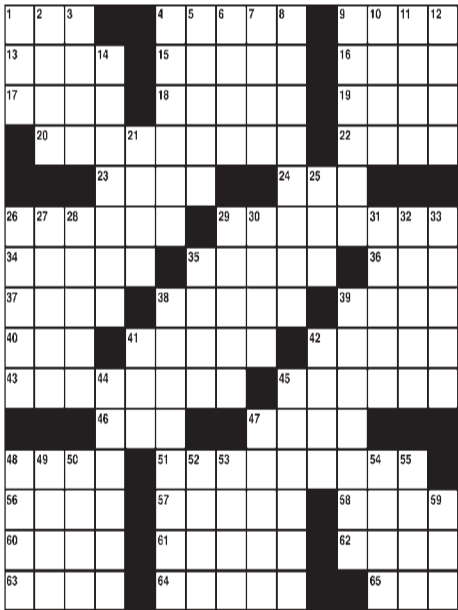
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	6	8	1	2	7	5	4	9
4	2	1	6	5	9	3	8	7
7	9	5	4	3	8	6	1	2
1	3	2	9	4	6	8	7	5
9	8	6	3	7	5	1	2	4
5	7	4	8	1	2	9	6	3
8	5	7	2	6	3	4	9	1
6	1	3	7	9	4	2	5	8
2	4	9	5	8	1	7	3	6

ACROSS

- 1 Sit-; ab exercises
- 4 Instruct
- 9 Diminishes
- 13 Increase
- 15 Ease, as another's fears
- 16 Ivory or Dial
- 17 Circle dance
- 18 Annoying people
- 19 Sightseeing trip
- 20 Seven weeks after Easter
- 22 TV show award
- 23 Small fruit pie
- 24 Female animal
- 26 Laundry problems
- 29 Quivering
- 34 Elephant's nose
- 35 Pigtail
- 36 Gun the engine
- 37 Ladder step
- 38 Punctuation mark
- 39 Elvis' "Me Tender"
- 40 like; pretend to be
- 41 Window pieces
- 42 Creator
- 43 Bothered
- 45 Dressy clothes
- 46 "If I a Hammer"
- 47 James ; 007
- 48 Long narrative
- 51 Rebel
- 56 First man
- 57 Lasso loop
- 58 Authentic
- 60 Rattle; upset
- 61 Mt. Aconcagua's range
- 62 "Oh, for Pete's !"
- 63 Peepers
- 64 Minimum
- 65 Ball holder



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 4/18/19

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

SAN	OMEGA	ARCH
ALSO	RIGOR	LUAU
MITT	INGREDIENT	
APR	DOUSE	RESTS
ORALS	WON	
SENATE	RIPSAW	
AROMA	SPUDS	FEE
GEMS	GUIDE	STAY
ACE	RANGE	STEVE
TROOPS	STARED	
RUS	PIERS	
FLEES	SPASM	HEM
LENGTHIEST	MAXI	
YOYO	IRATE	AVID
ASAN	JETER	NET

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- 41 Split soup
- 42 Actress -Na Wen
- 44 Longest river entirely in England
- 45 Woods
- 47 Public transports
- 48 Not in danger
- 49 One Multivitamins
- 50 Long look
- 52 Nary a one
- 53 Ice cream concoction
- 54 as a pin
- 55 away; subtract
- 59 Gen. Robert E.



Northrop Grumman's Antares rocket lifts off the launch pad at NASA Wallops Flight Facility in Wallops Island, Va., Wednesday, April 17, 2019.

Associated Press

Space station shipment launched from Virginia seashore

By **MARCIA DUNN**

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A fresh grocery shipment rocketed toward the International Space Station on Wednesday after launching from Virginia's seashore.

Northrop Grumman's Antares rocket blasted off from Wallops Island. The company's Cygnus capsule should arrive at the space station Friday, just in time for Easter. While there's no Easter ham or lamb, NASA said plenty of holiday fixings are going up for the space station's six residents, including smoked turkey, pork

chops, asparagus and cobbler. Altogether, more than 800 meals are tucked away.

The 7,600-pound (3,450-kilogram) load also included three free-flying robots to be tested as astronaut helpers, 40 black lab mice and 63 tiny student-research satellites.

Two of the cube-shaped Astrobee robots will be tested inside by the station crew, while the third — called Seeker and the size of a bread loaf — will wait until the Cygnus departs in July before being released and flying solo in orbit. The mice are part of tetanus-vaccine testing. □

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Filipinos plan more diggings where new human species found

By JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

Archaeologists who discovered fossil bones and teeth of a previously unknown human species that thrived more than 50,000 years ago in the northern Philippines said Thursday they plan more diggings and called for better protection of the popular limestone cave complex where the remains were unearthed.

Filipino archaeologist Armand Salvador Mijares said the discovery of the remains in Callao Cave in Cagayan province made the Philippines an important research ground on human evolution. The new species is called *Homo luzonensis* after the main northern island of Luzon, where the remains were dug up starting in 2007.

Beaming with pride, Mijares displayed the six fragments of bones from the feet, hands and thigh and seven teeth of three individuals from that bygone era in a news conference at the state-run University of the



Filipino archeologist Armand Salvador Mijares shows a femur bone, one of those they recovered from Callao Cave belonging to a new specie they called *Homo luzonensis*, during a press conference in metropolitan Manila, Philippines on Thursday, April 11, 2019.

Philippines. Tests showed two of the fossil fragments had minimum ages of 50,000 years and 67,000 years, according to a study published by the scientific journal *Nature*.

"This puts the Philippines, our scientific community in the spotlight," Mijares said. "Before, we're just peripheral in this debate of human evolution."

Mijares, who led a small team of foreign and local archaeologists behind

the rare discovery, said he plans to resume the diggings next year and hopes to find larger fossil bones, artifacts and possibly stone tools used by people in those times. Aside from Callao Cave, human fossils have recently been found in another site in Bulacan province just north of the capital, Manila, Mijares said without elaborating.

Another veteran Filipino archaeologist, Eusebio Dizon, said the human remains

from Callao were the oldest to be found in the Philippines, predating those discovered in Tabon Cave on the western island of Palawan by thousands of years. While the archaeological find could attract more scientists, Dizon worried that it could also draw vandals and treasure hunters who could threaten the seven-chamber cave complex, which is a popular tourism destination. An open-air chapel with pews and an altar in the cave complex has become a popular venue for weddings and filmmakers.

"Penablanca has been a treasure hunting haven of many people," Dizon said, referring to the Cagayan provincial town where the Callao caves are located. "Maybe it will reignite their kind of activity so that's why it needs protection now more than ever."

The main exodus of modern man's own species from Africa that all of today's non-African people are descended from took place around 60,000 years

ago. Analysis of the bones from the Callao caves led the study authors to conclude they belonged to a previously unknown member of our "Homo" branch of the human family tree. One of the toe bones and the overall pattern of tooth shapes and sizes differ from what's been seen before in the Homo family, the researchers said.

The fossil bones and teeth found about 3 meters (9.8 feet) below the ground in the cave show they belonged to small-bodied people. Bones of deer and related animals were found in the area, some with cut marks, suggesting they were butchered although there were no stone tools or sharp implements found in the immediate area where the human fossils were dug up, Mijares said.

Although the find contributes a new insight into modern man's ancient beginnings, Dizon said it also raised new questions and deepened the mystery behind the evolution of man. □



In this Wednesday Feb. 7, 2018, file photo a full facial reconstruction model of a head based on the skull of Britain's oldest complete skeleton on display during a screening event of *The First Brit: Secrets Of The 10,000 Year Old Man* at The Natural History Museum, in London.

Associated Press

Study: Aegean farmers replaced hunters of ancient Britain

By FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A wave of migrants from what is now Greece and Turkey arrived in Britain some 6,000 years ago and virtually replaced the existing hunter-gatherer population, according to a study published Monday in the journal *Nature*.

Scientists examining samples of ancient remains dating as far back as 8500 BC found the dark-skinned foragers who had inhabited the British Isles since the last Ice Age left comparatively little trace in the genetic record after the transition to farming, suggesting there wasn't much interbreeding with the newcomers who arrived around 4000 BC.

By contrast, the same Aegean migrants mixed extensively with local populations when they introduced farming to continental Europe about 1,000 years

earlier, according to previous DNA studies.

"It is difficult to say why this is, but it may be that those last British hunter-gatherers were relatively few in number," said Mark G. Thomas, a professor of evolutionary genetics at University College London who co-wrote the study.

"Even if these two populations had mixed completely, the ability of adept continental farmers and their descendants to maintain larger population sizes would produce a significant diminishing of hunter-gatherer ancestry over time."

The researchers from Britain and the United States found that the remains of Britain's early farmers were genetically similar to those discovered in what is now Spain and Portugal, indicating this population traveled east to west through

the Mediterranean, and then up to Britain.

Strikingly, the newcomers appear to have arrived first on the western coast before spreading to other parts of Britain, suggesting they didn't cross the English Channel using the shortest possible course but instead braved the wilder Atlantic route.

"This route is a continuation of the Mediterranean coastal dispersal route but of course in much more complicated maritime circumstances," said Carles Lalueza-Fox of the Institute of Evolutionary Biology in Barcelona, Spain.

Lalueza-Fox, who wasn't involved with the study, said the findings match what is known about the spread of megalithic structures along Europe's Atlantic coast. Perhaps the best-known of these structures is Stonehenge in Britain. □

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Berry Gordy fulfills dreams with Motown reaching 60 years

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Motown Records founder Berry Gordy looked out at the audience at a 60th anniversary tribute to his groundbreaking record label and saw his dream of making music for “all people” in the world fulfilled.

Gordy told the packed Microsoft Theater at the “Motown 60: A Grammy Celebration” that he wanted his label to bring people together from all walks of life through “a legacy of love.” The pre-taped concert, hosted by Smokey Robinson and Cedric the Entertainer, with an all-star lineup including Stevie Wonder, John Legend, Diana Ross, Meghan Trainor and Tori Kelly, airs Sunday on CBS. “My dream came true,” said Gordy, who started the African American label in 1959, building a roster that included su-



In this Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019 file photo, Berry Gordy, left, and Diana Ross speak onstage during Motown 60: A GRAMMY Celebration at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

perstar artists such as Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson, The Temptations, The Supremes and Diana Ross. “I want to thank all of you

fans, and your parents, and their grandparents. All around the world. I could say their great grandparents, but that would make

me older than I want to be.”

When Gordy launched Motown, he gave black musicians the platform to show-

case their talents at a time when they struggled to get their records played on mainstream radio stations. His label introduced and helped launch the careers some of the biggest selling music stars from Gaye to Lionel Richie.

His label paved a way for the Motown Museum to be built in Detroit. It was the first headquarters of Gordy's music empire where Wonder, The Supremes, the Miracles and other performers recorded hits before Motown moved to California in 1972. “We didn't even realize the impact of Motown,” said Gordy, who started the label with an \$800 loan from his family. “In those early days, the unsung heroes had the courage to follow me down a road that didn't even exist.”

Some of Motown's greatest hits were put on display during the concert, which was taped in February. □

‘Deeply candid’ Demi Moore memoir coming in September

BY HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Nine years after her book deal was first announced, Demi Moore is ready to release a memoir her publisher calls “deeply candid and insightful.”

Moore's “Inside Out” is scheduled for Sept. 24, HarperCollins announced Wednesday. According to the publisher, she will write openly about everything from her “tumultuous relationship” with her mother, from whom she was long estranged, to her three



In this Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019 file photo, actress Demi Moore poses at the premiere of the film “Corporate Animals” during the 2019 Sundance Film Festival, in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press

marriages, among them to Bruce Willis and Ashton Kutcher. “Throughout her rise to fame and during some of the most pivotal moments of her life, Moore battled addiction, body image issues, and childhood trauma that would follow her for years — all while juggling a skyrocketing career, celebrity status, and raising a family,” HarperCollins announced. “In this emotionally charged memoir, she opens up about her career and personal life — laying bare her defining tumultuous relationship with her

mother, her marriages, her struggles balancing stardom with motherhood, and her journey toward open heartedness.”

Moore, 56, was a high school dropout who became a television star in her early 20s on the daytime soap opera “General Hospital” and later starred in such hit films as “St. Elmo's Fire,” “Ghost” and “A Few Good Men.” She is also a longtime activist for children's rights and is the co-founder of Thorn, a non-profit which combats child sex trafficking. □

Garfield's the bright spot in a murky 'Silver Lake'

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
Associated Press
We'll call it the "Garfield Rule" — not the comic, the actor. It holds that any performance by Andrew Garfield, on screen or stage, will be worth seeing, no matter the content. After watching "Under the Silver Lake," a self-described "neo-noir thriller" by writer-director David Robert Mitchell ("It Follows"), I'm still a firm believ-

er in this rule, perhaps even more so — because only a legendarily committed actor like Garfield could make such an ambitiously murky (or murkily ambitious?) endeavor watchable, let alone for two hours and 19 minutes. Yes, almost two and a half hours. And here, length DOES matter, because up to a point, one can accept the feeling of being helplessly lost in Mitch-



This image released by A24 shows Andrew Garfield in a scene from "Under the Silver Lake." **Associated Press**

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SUN 1:05 | 3:20 | 5:35 | 7:50

NEW THIS WEEK!

PH

MON-THU 5:30 | 8:20

FRI 5:30 | 8:20 | 11:10

SAT 2:40 | 5:30 | 8:20 | 11:10

SUN 2:40 | 5:30 | 8:20

PBP

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-SUN 9:20

SPANISH

MON-THU 5:00 | 7:50

FRI 5:00 | 7:50 | 10:40

SAT 2:10 | 5:00 | 7:50 | 10:40

SUN 2:10 | 5:00 | 7:50

PBP

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-FRI 6:00 | 8:50

SAT-SUN 3:10 | 6:00 | 8:50

CHRISSE METZ | TOPHER GRACE

BREAKTHROUGH

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH

MON-THU 5:50 | 8:30

FRI 5:50 | 8:30 | 11:10

SAT 3:10 | 5:50 | 8:30 | 11:10

SUN 3:10 | 5:50 | 8:30

PBP

MON-FRI 4:05 | 6:40 | 9:15

SAT-SUN 1:30 | 4:05 | 6:40 | 9:15

REGINA HALL | ISSA RAE

Little

PH

MON-THU 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30

FRI 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55

SAT 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55

SUN 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30

PBP

MON-THU 3:40 | 6:05 | 8:35

FRI 3:40 | 6:05 | 8:35 | 11:00

SAT 1:15 | 3:40 | 6:05 | 8:35 | 11:00

SUN 1:15 | 3:40 | 6:05 | 8:35

ZACH GALIFIANAKIS | ZOE SALDANA

MISSING LINK

ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PH

MON-FRI 4:25

SAT-SUN 2:10 | 4:25

COLIN FARRELL | MICHAEL KEATON

DUMBO

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PBP

MON-THU 5:50 | 8:20

FRI 5:50 | 8:20 | 10:50

SAT 12:50 | 3:20 | 5:50 | 8:20 | 10:50

SUN 12:50 | 3:20 | 5:50 | 8:20

SPANISH

MON-FRI 4:10 | 6:45

SAT-SUN 1:35 | 4:10 | 6:45

JASON CLARKE | AMY SEIMETZ

PET SEMATARY

PH

MON-THU & SUN 4:25 | 9:35

FRI-SAT 4:25 | 9:35 | 11:55

DEV PATEL | ARMIE HAMMER

HOTEL MUMBAI

PH

MON-FRI 6:50

SAT-SUN 1:40 | 6:50

DAVID HARBOUR | MILLA JOVOVICH

HELBOY

PH

MON-SUN 6:40 | 9:25

OPENING APRIL 25: AVENGERS: ENDGAME, SOLTERAS INDISPONIBLES

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES

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ell's stylish and beautifully crafted but maddeningly mind-bending Los Angeles dreamscape. At a certain juncture, though, you need to feel tethered — to something. And by that we mean anything. It doesn't have to be a linear narrative to string these often seductive scenes together. And the constant rabbit holes we're led down are fine, to a point. But a sustainable core to the character would be nice. Not a moral core, just maybe an emotional guidepost to better understand where he's coming from. But that, too, is elusive. "Under the Silver Lake," so named for the hipster LA neighborhood where it

takes place, is the story of Sam (Garfield), a 33-year-old ... well, we're searching for a noun here, but it's not clear what Sam does, or is. We do know he's currently unemployed, and lives alone in a cluttered apartment with a balcony from which he can spy, with low-tech binocs (a la "Rear Window," one of countless old Hollywood references) on women nearby. This includes the wacky, topless "bird lady" on a nearby terrace, and a new neighbor, lovely Sarah (Riley Keough), who shows up one day in the swimming pool. Although Sam, despite the lack of a discernible direction in life, still has no problem getting female companionship (an actress

friend comes by periodically in different costumes for quick dalliances), he becomes enchanted with Sarah, a blonde who favors ruby-red lipstick and seems to be channeling Marilyn Monroe. And then, suddenly, in the middle of the night, Sarah disappears — and her little dog, too. The dog detail is important, because a dog killer seems to be on the loose in Silver Lake, terrifying the neighborhood. At the same time, a billionaire has gone missing. Then, a gruesome discovery emerges that seems to link Sarah, who may have left a coded message behind, with the billionaire. But how, and why? □

Monkey Punch, creator of megahit Japan comic Lupin III, dies

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**
Associated Press
TOKYO (AP) — Cartoonist Monkey Punch, best known as the creator of the Japanese megahit comic series Lupin III, has died at age of 81. His office, MP Pictures, said Wednesday that Monkey Punch, whose real name is Kazuhiko Kato, died of pneumonia on April 11. The story of master thief Lupin's adventures with his gang — gunman Daisuke Jigen, sword master Gemon Ishikawa and sexy beauty Fujiko Mine, as well as a detective, Zenigata — started in 1967. The cartoon also was adapted for TV animation and movies, some directed by renowned animators

including Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata. Kato himself directed the 1996 animated film "Lupin III: Dead or Alive." Miyazaki,

who directed a 1971 Lupin animation for TV, made his feature-length film debut with "Lupin III: The Castle of Cagliostro" in 1997. □



This undated photo shows Monkey Punch's megahit comic series of master thief Lupin The Third.

Associated Press

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Ben Affleck, Susan Sarandon, other stars donate to 2020 Dems

By BRIAN SLODYSKO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — From Ben Affleck and Susan Sarandon to Anna Wintour and Willie Nelson, celebrities lined up to give money — and a dash of star power — to their favorite Democratic presidential candidates ahead of this week's first quarter fundraising deadline.

For months, candidates in the crowded field of more than a dozen contenders have aggressively courted key figures in music, television, publishing and film, who are one of the party's most reliable sources of campaign cash. Although many donors remain on the sidelines, contributing to lackluster fundraising hauls, an early snapshot included in the campaign finance reports submitted to the Federal Election Commission this week offers a glimpse of who is drawing attention from entertain-



In this March 3, 2019, file photo, actor Ben Affleck attends the world premiere of "Triple Frontier" at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York.

Associated Press

ment industry in the early stages of the race.

"When you talk about Hollywood, yes, we are talking about movie stars and writers and directors, but we are also talking about people with decades of experience with presidential campaigns," said Yusef Robb, a longtime California political strategist. "Earning support from somebody with a lot of connections in

the political world couples with their star power, which people in the chattering classes notice."

California Sen. Kamala Harris has long-standing relationships with major entertainment industry figures in her home state. But former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg are also among the can-

didates who count celebrities as donors.

So far, few donors are bundling large sums of money for candidates by asking their friends, family and colleagues to give, too. But many have given individually, which is limited under campaign finance law to a \$2,800 contribution during the primary election, followed by another \$2,800 earmarked for the general election campaign.

Last month, Harris was feted at the Pacific Palisades home of director J.J. Abrams and his wife, Katie McGrath, in a gathering attended by Hollywood powerbrokers, including TV hitmaker Shonda Rhimes. Harris also has received money from Affleck, who gave \$2,800; actress Eva Longoria, who gave \$5,400; composer Quincy Jones, who gave \$2,800; and former "Mad Men" star Jon Hamm, who gave \$1,000. O'Rourke, a former punk

rocker, received \$2,800 from a fellow Texan, country music icon Nelson, as well as \$1,850 from Grateful Dead bassist Phil Lesh and \$2,800 from Dave Matthews Band violinist Boyd Tinsley. He also took in \$5,600 from Vogue editor-in-chief Wintour, \$1,500 from comedian and "Breaking Bad" actor Bob Odenkirk, \$2,500 from Texas film director Richard Linklater and \$350 from "Saturday Night Live" star Cecily Strong.

Sanders received \$2,700 from actor and comedian Danny DeVito, \$2,800 from actress Susan Sarandon, \$2,500 from piano player Norah Jones and \$1,000 from Foo Fighters guitarist Christopher Shiflett. Jonathan Fishman, drummer for the jam band Phish, which was formed in Sanders' home state of Vermont, gave \$1,000, while Thomas Middleditch from HBO's "Silicon Valley" gave \$500, records show. □

Nick Waterhouse makes old soul sounds for new themes

By PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

Nick Waterhouse, "Nick Waterhouse" (Innovative Leisure) "There's an exit/and there's a way out/the two just ain't the same" is a typical lyric from Nick Waterhouse's self-titled fourth album, a collection that stays true to his particular style and sets images and stories of 21st-century noir to soul and R&B sounds rooted in the 1950s and '60s.

"Undedicated," the source of the words above, could be sung by the protagonist of Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game" as he nears the end of the line — or, let's be optimistic, a new start — and the tune's baritone and tenor saxes help to paint a grim horizon: "Feel that old fear ... that

nobody's gonna remember your name."

With an insistent little riff and dangerous guitar by Bart Davenport, "El Viv" is the kind of instrumental that helps understand why bands like The Ventures became so influential without having to sing a single word, while "Which Was Writ" is just as cool, its skeletal arrangements relying on a Telecaster, a baritone guitar and slightly reverbed vocals.

"Black Glass" investigates global obsessions as the walls keep closing in and "Song for Winners" sounds cruel — "I hear no fearlessness/only fear" — but could just as well be a call for resolve and action.

Nick Waterhouse may be a man out of time but don't confuse that with living in the past. □



This image released by Innovative Leisure shows the latest release by Nick Waterhouse.

Associated Press

Morocco is a trove of Jewish history if you know where to go

By **LEANNE ITALIE**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — With its mountains and desert, beach resorts and Berber villages, Morocco is a feast for travelers of all kinds, including those who want to explore the kingdom's deep Jewish roots.

The presence of Jews in Morocco stretches back more than 2,000 years. Before the founding of Israel in 1948, estimates put their number as high as about 275,000, which was considered the largest Jewish community in the Muslim world, said Roy Mittelman, director of the Jewish studies program at The City College of New York.

Today, after vast waves of departures over the years, only about 2,000 Jews remain in Casablanca and about 500 elsewhere in Morocco, but the Jewish presence is still alive in a variety of sights. The Museum of Moroccan Judaism in suburban Casablanca, for instance, is the only museum on Judaism in the Arab world.

Jews of Moroccan descent, in Israel and around the globe, return to the North African kingdom often and some maintain second homes in familial regions. Jewish heritage tours to Morocco are abundant and easy to track down. Most cities have a mellah, which is an old Jewish quarter, along with Jewish cemeteries and synagogues.

Mittelman, who has spent 40 years absorbing the history, culture and religious practices of Jews in Morocco, leads groups of students on tours of Jewish sights as part of an advanced seminar. He said there's plenty to read ahead of a visit.

He recommends Shlomo Dessen's "The Mellah Society: Jewish Community Life in Sherifian Morocco" for more on pre-colonial Morocco, based on the writings of 18th- and 19th-century Judeo-Moroccan sages.

To learn more about the spiritual history of the Jewish quarter in Marrakech, he recommends the travelogue of Bulgarian Jew-



This March 27, 2019 photo shows the sanctuary at Temple Beth-El in Casablanca, Morocco. The Jewish synagogue is often considered a centerpiece of a once vibrant Jewish community in Casablanca.

ish writer Elias Canetti, "The Voices of Marrakesh: A Record of a Visit."

Mittelman has honed his travel itineraries over the years. Here are some of his favorites and other sights:

CASABLANCA

The last Moroccan Jewish day school, Neve Shalom, is in Casablanca, which is the economic and business center of the kingdom. Ask for Principal Jacky Sebbag. Watch the children playing outside in the yard, enjoy them singing Jewish songs and learn more about the school's Hebrew classes and Bible studies, Mittelman said.

Visit the Tahiti Beach Club, once a local Jewish hangout.

Among Mittelman's walking tours of Jewish residential areas in Casablanca are stops at the Beth El and Eim Habanim synagogues. There's also a newer synagogue, David Ha-Melech, in the tony, beachside Corniche quarter not far from the beach club.

Casablanca has a traditional kosher bakery and kosher restaurants, as do other cities.

Mittelman sings the praises of guide Dorith Benmoha of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. She's based in Casablanca and is considered an expert on all things Jewish in

Morocco, especially the Casablanca community. Her email address is dorith-benmoha@hotmail.com. Her cell and WhatsApp number: +212 6 61 20 39 81. She has an insider's view.

MARRAKECH

Just over 100 Jews remain in Marrakech, including a handful who live in the old Jewish quarter, Mittelman said, but the mellah is bustling.

Among the synagogues that remain is the tiny blue-and-white Lazama, along a narrow street. Ask a local how to find it. Visitors may enter for a small fee. There's an inviting riad-style courtyard with a fruit tree and a few chairs for weary travelers.

The original synagogue dated to 1492 but it was later rebuilt. The synagogue's

Torah scrolls were written on gazelle parchment, according to the synagogue's Muslim guide. Visitors can have a look at Lazama's mikveh, the traditional Jewish ritual bath down some winding stone steps.

The mellah isn't the only place for synagogues. Head to the city's newer section of Gueliz, with a heavy European influence, for shabbat services at Temple Beth El Synagogue. Any taxi driver should know how to get there.

Two hours south of Marrakech is a little town called Anouim, where the mysterious rabbi and healer Wazana once lived.

For another day trip out of Marrakech visit the Jewish heritage sites at Essaouira, once a thriving Jewish center and a former Portu-

guese fishing town. It was also a stop for 1960s and '70s rock stars who made pilgrimages to Marrakech. The town, dating to the 1700s, has a synagogue, cemetery and mellah, with plaques indicating buildings where ancient, long-gone synagogues once stood.

A particular highlight for Mittelman is the Tomb of the Sainted Rabbi, Haim ben Diwan, just over an hour south of Marrakech. Jews still gather at the spot in the high Atlas Mountains in the village of Tagadirt n'Bour near Anrhaz for a traditional "hiloula" celebration of his life.

Mittelman leads groups up a hill for a picnic near the tomb.

"It's our little pilgrimage spot. You see mountains all around you and you hear wind going through the mountains. Specially it's an incredible experience," he said.

FES

The city had a large Jewish community in the 17th century and has a well-known Orthodox synagogue, Ibn Danan. Once crumbling, it was refurbished in the 1990s with help from the World Monuments Fund and American Express. King Mohammed VI has committed to reviving Jewish sites around Morocco.

The mellah here is a maze within walls. You WILL get lost and that's half the fun. It was the first mellah in Morocco, dating to around 1438.

In addition to a Jewish cemetery, where a couple of eminent medieval rabbis are buried, there's a site in Fes that is considered sacred among women, the Tomb of Solika. With a last name that varies, Solika — as one retelling goes — was a Jewish woman of great beauty who was beheaded in 1834 for refusing to convert to Islam.

Maimonides, one of the most prolific and influential Torah scholars in the Middle Ages, lived in Fes from 1159 to 1165. His stone home, with weathered engraving marking the location, is worth a stop. □



This March 27, 2019 photo shows the Torah scrolls in the ark of Em Habonim Synagogue of Casablanca, Morocco.

Associated Press